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Heartily Yours

W. Blake

A

# HISTORY

OF THE

## TOWN OF FRANKLIN, MASS.;

FROM ITS SETTLEMENT TO THE COMPLETION OF  
ITS FIRST CENTURY,

2d March, 1878;

WITH

GENEALOGICAL NOTICES OF ITS EARLIEST FAMILIES, SKETCHES  
OF ITS PROFESSIONAL MEN, AND A REPORT OF  
THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

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BY MORTIMER BLAKE,

MEMBER OF OLD COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY; HONORARY MEMBER OF NEW ENGLAND  
HISTORIC-GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.

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FRANKLIN, MASS.

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN.

1879.

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J. A. & R. A. RID, Printers, Providence, R. I.

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## INTRODUCTION.

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Please correct the following errors:

Page 54, line 4th, for "has" read "had."  
" 62, " 10th, after "has" insert "since."  
" 64, " 5th from bottom, after "steps" insert "were."  
" 88, " 12th, read "missionary."  
" 90, " 3d from bottom, insert "60 feet."  
" 107, " 20th, for "one" read "our."  
" 125, " 7th from bottom, read "headed."  
" 187, erase lines 21-24.  
" 194, last line, erase last clause.  
" 206, transpose 8th and 9th lines.  
" 227, last line, read "names."  
" 243, *Samuel instead of John Goldsbury*

the town to carry out the plan presented.

The committee were unanimous in their choice of historian—Rev. Mortimer Blake, D. D., of Taunton, Mass. His marked ability and well-known antiquarian researches, especially connected with the early history of Franklin, abundantly qualified him for this important work.

Dr. Blake with some reluctance entered upon the task, which he would not have undertaken for any town but his own.

At the annual town meeting, in March, 1878, the committee was enlarged by the addition of five members—Messrs. A. St. John Chambre, Henry M. Greene, James P. Ray, Paul B. Clark,

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## INTRODUCTION.

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At the annual town meeting held in March, A. D. 1876, a report was presented by a committee previously chosen by the town, consisting of Messrs. Waldo Daniels, Stephen W. Richardson, William M. Thayer, William Rockwood, and Adin D. Sargent, to whom was referred the subject of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town.

Among the recommendations embodied in this report was the following : —

“That a history of the town be prepared and published, in which the important events of its early settlement and the succeeding municipal transactions shall be recorded—including also, so far as practicable, its interest in and the part sustained by its citizens in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the late Rebellion; also its ecclesiastical and educational work, the growth and development of our manufacturing interests, and of all that pertains to its prosperity as a township.”

The report was accepted and the committee were authorized by the town to carry out the plan presented.

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and Edward A. Rand, to assist in the accumulating duties and preparations arising from the approach of the centennial celebration. To the united committee Dr. Blake presented his valuable manuscript, which, after examination and discussion, was unanimously accepted and ordered to be printed.

In presenting this volume to the citizens of Franklin and the public generally, the committee feel that the reputation of the author as a historian and scholar is sufficient pledge of its value. They are confident that it will be found to be a rare history, abounding in facts, incidents, narratives, biography, genealogy, and whatever belongs to a superior town history — all enriched by the author's terse style and originality of thought.

WALDO DANIELS,	A. ST. JOHN CHAMBRE,
S. W. RICHARDSON,	H. M. GREENE,
WILLIAM M. THAYER,	JAMES P. RAY,
WILLIAM ROCKWOOD,	PAUL B. CLARK,
ADIN D. SARGENT,	EDWARD A. RAND,

*Centennial Committee.*

FRANKLIN, December, 1878.

## HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

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MR. PRESIDENT, THE HONORED CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF THIS COMMON-WEALTH AND HIS ASSOCIATES IN OFFICE, KINSMEN AND FRIENDS—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: A hundred years are crowding to tell their tales to-day. It will not, therefore, permit much time for introductory salutations. We will just congratulate one another that we are allowed to be here, at the centennial epoch of this grand old town, give a welcome hand to the sons and daughters who have come back (some from long distances) to this home of their childhood, and then we will stand aside to let the century talk of the men and their deeds who have given us a town history worth commemorating.

I must preface, however, that it was with great timidity I consented to be the spokesman of this hour. Living so far and so long from the sources of information, and crowded with the never-finished work of my vocation, it has only been by short visits and broken explorations that I have searched records to collate the story of this town's past. If the results seem meagre, please charge it—not to want of interest in the seeking, but to lack of time and material. And, had it not been for the zealous co-operation of your committee in charge of this celebration, and of other interested citizens, and the cordial responses of the town clerks into whose records the sources of our town history run back, and of Wrentham in particular, the present address would be still more meagre. To all who have aided in this service, let me here present my cordial acknowledgments. So much only will my short hour permit me to say for introduction.

The life and roundness of our story have decayed in the lapse of time, leaving but a skeleton of dismembered facts. I am appointed to wire together these scattered bones and reclothe the framework of our past with the motor forces and flush of a recovered life. If I can so much as make the century *stand* before you, I shall feel amply rewarded, even if the countenance be lack-lustre and homely.

The century we commemorate to-day by no means carries us back to the beginning of the town. To reach the forces which have shaped its character and history, we must go still further back by more than another hundred years. Seventeen hundred and seventy-eight was only when this town became of age and took her place among her sister towns. Her childhood dates really from 1660, when her mother, Wrentham, first came to live in Wollomonopoag. But her birthday was close upon the beginnings of the Massachusetts colony. To compass, therefore, the full history of this town, we should confer with the original Puritan immigrants of 1630 around the Bay. But such a quest would cover two hundred and fifty years, a period that cannot be compressed within this hour's review. I must, therefore, content myself with the humbler aim of selecting what may seem to be the hinge-facts on which the course and character of our town history have turned.

These facts mainly cluster about three points: First, The rights of the settlers to the soil; Second, The character and aims of the settlers; and Third, The subsequent development of their history.

It may be of no present consequence to learn by what title these goodly farms are held; but it is a satisfaction to know that our ancestors were not lawless trespassers upon their original Indian occupants. And the evidence lies abundant in the colonial charter, the laws of its courts and the purchase deeds of the settlers. By their Patent, the lands belonged to the settlers as a company and not as individuals. But they had the right of distribution among themselves, and they turned to this task with becoming gravity. As a preliminary caution, their court had voted (March 4, 1630) that "no man shall

buy land of Indians without leave had of the court ; ” and, as an immediate necessity, it votes that “ all swamps of above one hundred acres be *free* to any freeman to fetch wood.”

But, interesting as it might be, we must not spend time in waiting upon this court and reporting its cautious and wise conclusions. A few only, which touch our present inquiry, will be quoted. To prevent the scattering and weakening of the settlers, no house shall be built above half a mile from the meeting-house without leave of the court. A special committee shall set out and bound all towns and settle all boundary difficulties, and towns may divide up their own lands. As we listen to the debates and orders of this Court of Assistants, we gather these conclusions of their policy : None but freemen acceptable to the court shall have any lands ; such shall have lands only as companies and in masses of territory ; for signal service to the colony, however, single persons are paid in special grants of land ; all grants to companies or to individuals are to be set and laid out by and with the approval of the court. The occupants of their soil are thus to be assured friends of the colony ; and for a man to become a freeman and proprietor of a farm, is an endorsement of his goodness by the Puritan standard.

The court, further, is particular to transfer only its own title to the soil. If the lands granted be subject to any Indian claims, these must be extinguished by the towns themselves. Thus, Concord is directed, in 1637, to purchase the ground within their limits of the Indians, and an agent is chosen in 1638 to agree with the Indians for land in Watertown, Cambridge, and Boston. But in 1639 John Bayley is fined five pounds for buying land of Indians without leave. We carefully note these sample acts, as vindicating the honesty of the Puritans towards the Indians. They are in accord with the general letter from the governor and council of the New England Company, dated Gravesend, April 17, 1629. “ If any of the salvages Ptend right of inheritance to all or any Pt of the lands graunted in or patent, wee pray yo’r endeav’r to p’rchase their tytle, that wee may avagde the least scruple of intrusion.”

Still lingering about this venerable court of the governor and his assistants, our ears catch the words of an order in which we immediately feel an interest. The session is at Newtowne, Sept. 2, 1635, and the order is, "that there shall be a plantation settled about two miles above the falls of Charles river, on the northeast side thereof, to have ground lying to it on both sides the river, both upland and meadow, to be laid out hereafter as the court shall direct." This must have something to do with Franklin, for *it* is on one side of Charles river. We drop into the session of next year, Sept. 8, 1636, to read on its record: "Ordered that the plantation to be settled above the falls of Charles river shall have three years' immunity from public charges as Concord had, to be accounted from the 1st of May next (*i. e.* 1637); and the name of said plantation is to be *Dedham*, to enjoy all that land on the southerly and easterly side of Charles river not formerly granted to any town or particular persons, and also to have five miles square on the other side of the river." The courts of those days followed rather than led public opinion, and we find, back of this large grant of territory—including now thirteen towns and parts of four others—the impulse of twenty-two solid men, ancestors, some of them, of persons here present.\*

Our genealogical line is Franklin, Wrentham, Dedham, and this line would be the full path of our history, starting from Newtowne Sept. 2, 1635. We need not go back even so far as Dedham, for others have already told its story. We will, however, on our way to Wrentham, look in upon Dedham long enough to form some idea of our ancestral beginnings. Rev. John Allen, the first minister, or Michael Metcalf, the head selectman, can tell us their story. They described their character in the name they have given to their town, "Contentment," and in this peaceable prelude to their covenant, "We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, in the fear and rever-

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\* These towns, following the compass, are Dedham, Needham, Natick in part, Dover, Sherborne in part, Medfield, Medway, Bellingham mostly, Franklin, Wrentham, Norfolk, Walpole, Foxboro in part, Norwood.

ence of our Almighty God, mutually and severally promise amongst *ourselves* and each other, to profess and practice *one faith* according to that most perfect rule the foundation whereof is *everlasting love*." Happily named, Contentment.

Some of the settlers, however, especially John Dwight and his son Timothy, John Page, and John Rogers, are not contented. They remember the old home town in England whence they came, and especially their minister, Rev. John Rogers, grandson of the proto-martyr, John ; and for love of him and of it they change the name of Contentment to Dedham.

It is but a few minutes' walk along the short street east of the present court-house. The ninety log-houses are nearly alike, thatched with long grass from the meadows, each with a ladder from the ground to the chimney, and standing near the front edge of its twelve acres ; which are dotted with stumps and bounded with uneven pole fences. In the rear of these lots are the fields or pastures, called "herd walks" or "cow-commons," simply cleared of timber and burnt over each spring under the oversight of the wood-reeves. Bounding the pastures outside is the virgin forest, filled with wolves more than dogs and hunters can keep under ; although there is a bounty upon their scalps, and there are regulation muskets from three feet nine inches to four feet three inches barrel length, and such noted marksmen as Sargent Ellis and Dea. Ephraim Wilson behind them.

In one of these houses Michael Metcalf is keeping school for the year for £20—two-thirds part in wheat at the town or country rate, and the other part in corn at the said rate, to be kept, the record says, "at the school-house, except the wether be extreme to hinder, and then he is to attend at his own dwelling-house. The town to have the harth laid in the school-house forthwith, and windows made fitt, and wood for the fire to be laid in. In the heat of the weather, if the said Michael desire to make use of the meeting-house, he may do so, provided the house be kept clean and the windows be made good if broken (as if the young Dwights and Fishers and

Metcalfs of that day ever threw stones! ), the school to begin the 19th of the present month (1656) and the pay quarterly."

In another house Michael Powall has, since 1646, kept a licensed ordinary, where we may find a dinner or a bed. Near by him, if exhausted with our toiling through the woods from Boston, we may find something stronger—as the selectmen petitioned in 1658 that, "in regard of their remoteness from Boston, Left. Joshua Fisher (one of their chief men) have liberty to sell strong waters, to supply the necessity of such as shall stand in need thereof in that town." Here are the elements of a promising civilization! Besides, there is Capt. Eleazur Lusher "impowered to marry;" Mr. Edward Allen, John Kingsbury, and John Luson to "order small business under 20 shillings;" John Haward constable, a barrel of gunpowder, a train band and a small cannon, or drake, presented by the colony to this now called "out towne."

But it is drawing towards 1660, and stories are afloat of a mine of some kind of metal near certain ponds, about thirteen miles to the westward of Dedham, which must be somewhere in this region.

The people, alert for any increase of their hard-earned and small incomes, talk it over when they come together "in a lecture day," and the selectmen send out (22<sup>o</sup> 4m., 1660) four men "to view the lands both upland and meadow near about the ponds by George Indian's wigwam, and make report of what they find to the selectmen in the first opportunity they can take." Six months after, their report gives so much encouragement that two other men are sent to compound with the Indians for their rights to the soil.

But great enterprises like the settlement of new towns in the wilderness must move slowly and cautiously. For it is no trifling afternoon project to vacate a home, though it be just built of logs and thatch in a stump-covered lot, and to forsake companions who have worked in the fields and sat in the rude meeting-house together, and to start everything anew in the forests twenty miles of unbroken paths away. We cannot

appreciate their obstacles or their hesitations. But we do admire their cautious deliberations and prudent conclusions.

Although the good people of Dedham had talked together of the meadows towards the west, where they had cut hay in 1649, and of the great ponds towards the Narragansett country, and now especially of the mines near them, and of the report of the men sent to explore the western wilderness more thoroughly, still when the motion was made (27th March, 1661) to begin a plantation and give 600 acres for its encouragement, some objected. But the movement had begun already. Ten men, at least, had gone to break ground in Wollomonopoag, as this region was called. As soon as they heard of this encouragement of the 600 acres, they claimed it as pioneers of the projected settlement. You will recognize their names, if not the persons: Anthony Fisher, Sargent Ellis, Robert Ware, James Thorp, Isaac Bullard, Samuel Fisher, Samuel Parker, John Farrington, Ralph Freeman, and Sargent Stevens. Some of their descendants are probably here to-day.

But Dedham could not be in such haste. It had chosen a committee to attend to three things in due order: First, "to determine when men present themselves for entertainment there, who are meet to be accepted;" Second, to "proportion to each man, thus accepted, his part in the 600 acres;" Third, to "order the settling of the plantation in reference to situation, highways, convenient place for a meeting-house, a lot or lots for church officers, with such other things necessary as may hereafter be proposed." Yet this committee made commendable haste, for before the year 1661 closed they reported, and the town of Dedham adopted their boundaries and plan of a settlement. But now the cautiousness has shifted to the side of the colonists. They have some grave problems to lay before their townsmen before they depart into this wilderness of Wollomonopoag. The selectmen of Dedham, therefore, call a meeting of the proprietors of the town, 12th January, 1662, to hear these propositions. The prospective colonists say, through their committee, Anthony Fisher, Robert Ware, Richard Ellis, and Isaac Bullard, that they have secured but

ten men, and they cannot go with so small a company—"they are not desirous to leave the world altogether," as they put it, but will go if they can "proceed in a safe way." For their justification, be it said, it was not Indians, nor solitude, nor hard work in a wilderness which they were afraid of, but a jeopardy of their legal rights and privileges of citizenship. They were not willing to enter into the wolf's den without good assurance that responsible hands were hold of the other end of the rope and would keep hold of it.

The town of Dedham, they knew, had at a general town meeting already approved the setting up of a plantation at Wollomonopoag, and had sent two men to inquire of the Indians about their title. But what will the proprietors of Dedham do about it? for these were two different parties. Will they make the way safe by paying the Indians and giving the lands to the venturing settlers? The proprietors, and not the town, you remember, owned the lands not already granted to individual settlers or set apart for public use, and they, and not the town, must sell and give the title of their 600 acres to their hesitating colonists. I have not time now to report the discussion of this grave problem in that proprietors' meeting of 1662. But the conclusion, at a second meeting in the next month, 2d March, 1663, was that the proprietors could not advise the settlement in the present circumstances, but would satisfy for the necessary expense of those who had broken ground at Wollomonopoag. So the project seems to be exploded. But Timothy Dwight and Richard Ellis, the two agents chosen two years before, in 1660, to confer with the Indians, have, meanwhile, been busy in dealing with the wily Wompanoags, and now, in 1662, bring to the proprietors a report which gives a new aspect to the problem.

Philip has this year succeeded, through the death of his father Masassoit and elder brother Alexander, to the headship of the tribe of the Wampanoags, and, perhaps to collect the means for his projected war upon the settlements, is ready to conclude the long negotiations for his lands. By the aid of Capt. Thomas Willett, one of the Plymouth commissioners, long

skilled in Indian tactics — afterwards the first mayor of New York city, and whose grave lies on the banks of Bullock's Cove in Seekonk — the Dedham agents have purchased and secured a deed of Wollomonopoag, five miles square (six says Worthington) for £24 10s., which sum Captain Willett has advanced for the town out of his own pocket. This money must be repaid to the generous captain and the newly-bought land must supply the means of payment.

The proprietors, therefore, at this same meeting of March, 1663, vote a general dividend among themselves, both of the 600 acres set apart for a settlement and of its price of £160, one-quarter to be paid annually. This land and its cost is to be divided according to each one's cow-common rights. There are thirty-four shares of the 600 acres and of the £160.

These cow-common rights, so often mentioned, may require an explanation. The territory belonged to the proprietors as a company, in which each held shares in proportion to his property valuation. The ratio was one common right per each £8 of estate. The number of acres set apart for pasture was in proportion to the number and needs of the cattle owned by the proprietors, five sheep being reckoned equal to one cow, and each owned such a share of this land, or so many cow-common rights, as one-eighth of his property valuation might express in units. The whole grant or township was held by the proprietors in a similar manner, and when five-acre, eight-acre divisions, etc., were subsequently granted by the proprietors, each drew five, ten, or fifteen acres of the common land, as the number of his common rights might be. For many years the business of proprietors and of inhabitants were transacted in common, but a colonial law in 1720 organized the proprietary as a separate body from the town, and their acts disappear from the municipal records and mostly from our present knowledge.

Those who have already made improvements at Wollomonopoag are allowed *first* to choose their lots. I count nine men, and these were presumably the first comers to Wollomonopoag to settle. You may recognize among them your grandfather's

grandfather : Anthony Fisher, Jr., Sargt. Richard Ellis, Robert Ware, James Thorp, Isaac Bullard, Sam'l Fisher, Sam'l Parker, Josh. Kent, and Job Farrington. Good Franklin names, most of them. To them are to be added Sam'l Sheers (the first actual settler apparently), Ralph Freeman, and perhaps Daniel Makiah. Where these men located their lots it is not possible now accurately to determine. But the record says the first lot was "to be where the Indians have broken up land not far from the place intended to build a mill at," which was where the Eagle Factory now stands.\* Perhaps the remaining thirty-three lots went southwards to the meeting-house, and thence westward along the two present main streets of Wrentham.

It is now 1662, and the owners of the thirty-four lots enter one after another, either in person or by proxy, upon the occupation of their territory. In the next year, 1663, they lay out their first highway, with the sanction of the selectmen of Dedham, "at the east end of their lots." Was it the road from the present meeting-house of Wrentham towards Franklin?

The five succeeding years are laboriously spent in taming the native forests for fields of corn and rye, building their log-houses, fencing in their pastures and watching the wolves. We hear nothing from them but the echo of their axes against the big trees until 1668, when the irrepressible Indian reappears. It is a woman this time. What is her grievance we do not know; but her absence is more desirable than her presence, and she herself thinks so, for at a town meeting in Dedham, where their affairs are still conducted, 4th February, 1668, Sarah herself is present with her son John and her brother George, and requests that her little farm of ten acres among the white men may be exchanged for a tract elsewhere. The proposal is accepted, and they give her ten acres of upland in exchange, with liberty to take fencing stuff, "near a pond about two miles westward from the situation of the township at Wollo-

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\* Such is the current interpretation; but Hon. Ezra Wilkinson, in his explorations of ancient deeds, has concluded that this first lot was on South street, and that this was the first street laid out in the present Wrentham.

monopouge." From some previous allusions to George Indian, we suppose the ten acres quitted by Sarah were near the Eagle mill, and as there is no other pond "two miles westward" than the present Uncas pond in Franklin — on whose banks the almshouse farm now is — who knows but the Indian Sarah and her son John and brother George were the first occupants of our poor farm, and prophets of the Indians' coming fate! But they are hardly removed to their new quarters when the irrepressible Philip reappears. At least, a messenger hurriedly comes to Dedham to say that Philip is at Wollomonopoag with more lands which he is anxious to sell. It is doubtful to the Dedhamites what claim further he has; but, as he is a neighbor not politic to provoke in these ticklish times, Timothy Dwight and four others are hurried off to buy up whatever lands he may have to offer, "provided he can show that he has any." Suspicious that the six miles square he had sold did not cover the space between Dedham and the western line of Wollomonopoag, as he well might be, he claims a new-moon-shaped lot on its eastern side, including part of the present Walpole and up to the lands of Chickatabut, sachem of the Neponsets of Sharon, etc. This tract is also purchased, as near as we can ascertain, for £17 8d., and is accepted by the town of Dedham, 15th November, 1669. Before Dedham has done with these dusky peddlers of real estate it pays out at least £66 18s. for seven different purchases within its boundaries, and has seven different Indian deeds, which are committed to Dea. Aldis to be kept for the town in a box. But it came to pass in process of time that the deacon's children wanted the box for other uses, and the deeds, like so many other now invaluable documents, went where other like precious papers have gone, and are going yet, for want of some vigilant interest and care. But our fathers honestly paid the price asked by the Indian claimants for their lands, and with somewhat better than the traditional peck of beans, at which nearly all towns are reported to have been bought; so that they cannot be justly charged with wronging the natives of their soil. These

farms are held by equitable purchase of the only occupants who could justify any claim.

With the lands in their possession by grant of the General Court and by purchase from both the natives and the proprietors of Dedham, nothing hinders our transferring ourselves to the young settlement, not yet named, at Wollomonopoag. Even while signs have been thickening along the southern horizon, and among the Wampanoags especially, portending a disturbance to these pioneers, they have been pushing on their young enterprise. They adopt rules for the due management of their plantation, among which are—that each proprietor shall pay one shilling and sixpence per common right for the maintenance of a minister; that the choice of a minister shall be long to the inhabitants with the concurrence of the Dedham proprietors who can be easily consulted, and especially of the Dedham minister, Rev. John Allin, the ruling Elder, John Hunting, Eleazer Lusher, the head man in civil affairs; and that a tax of two shillings per common right be paid towards a convenient meeting-house, of which John Thurston, Robert Ware, and Sargent Fuller are to be the building committee. The ministerial candidate seems to have been already selected, for within twenty-five days, 27th December, 1669, Mr. Samuel Man is invited and the choice approved by the Dedham advisers. But the hindrances to his acceptance are many, and time slips along for three years and more, so filled with other most urgent business, not the least of which is watching the Wampanoags, before the full arrangements are completed. Mr. Man's answer, in the 11th month of 1672, that he accepts their propositions “in case they be performed within the space of a year and a half,” hints at some dilatoriness possible on the part of the settlers. But they are hurrying as fast, no doubt, as those rugged times will permit. Anxious, may be, to secure this young Harvard graduate, within a year after his call, a petition for incorporation as a town is presented to the General Court, and is, with astonishing promptness, granted on the same day, 16th October, 1673; and that too, when, on





Rev. Mr. Bean's testimony, there are only sixteen families in the settlement.\*

But while these few families are getting themselves into comfortable order, building a grist-mill, securing a blacksmith, etc., the conspiracy of Philip is also ripening, and within three years his bands of warriors dash upon the frontier towns all along the line from Swansey to Hadley. At first their ravages are at the south and along the Connecticut valley. But the smoke of their presence draws nearer and nearer. Hardly have the flames died down in Lancaster before the sky over Medfield is thick with smoke. Wrentham lies next in their path, and only ten days, from the 10th to the 21st of February, 1675, O. S., between the burning of Lancaster and Medfield! In a week the Indians will be here. Speedily are the goods packed and sent with the wives and children back to Dedham, and by 30th March the deserted houses are left to their fate. A band of the Narragansetts, returning from Medfield, set fire to the empty dwellings and burn, tradition says, all but two. It was a vengeful act, perhaps in response to an unexpected encounter which they had met with at Indian Rock, less than five hundred rods from this spot.

The traditions of this encounter vary, but the essential facts are that a man named Rocket, in search of a horse lost in the woods, found instead a trail of forty-two Indians, which he cautiously followed until night, when he saw them fairly laid down to sleep. He hastened back to the settlement, mustered a dozen resolute men under Capt. Robert (?) Ware, and before daylight the little band was posted within eyesight of the sleeping savages and ready to salute them as soon as they awaked. It was a sharp and anxious watch, for the Indians were more than two to one of the Wrenthamites. Between daylight and sunrise the Indians arose almost together, when, at a preconcerted signal, each waiting musket sent its bullet to its mark. The suddenness of the attack so confused the

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\* But the records of the General Court show the incorporation to have been consummated upon the 17th. See records, Vol. iv., pt. ii., p. 569.

Indians who escaped the first shot that they rushed and leaped down a steep precipice of the rock ; where they, maimed and lamed by the fall, became speedily victims to the quick and steady aim of the whites. One or two only escaped to tell the fate of their comrades. Rocket is said to have received an annual pension from the General Court for his prompt and skillful action.

In 1823, the Fourth of July was celebrated on Indian Rock, by an oration from Dr. John G. Metcalf, a dinner, etc., when earnest talk was had of some commemorative monument on the spot. But a visit there a few days ago showed me only the names of the originators of that celebration deeply engraven in the rock and distinctly legible after over fifty years of frosts and storms : " W. Lovering, D. C. Fisher, H. N. Gridley, J. G. Metcalf, W. B. Wright." These are flanked here and there by half a score of initials of later dates. But Indian Rock still lifts itself its own monmment, solitary as ever, above the trees, and gives the visitor one of the finest views, from the Milton Hills to Wachusett, which this town affords. Pity that the path which once led to it were not again made passable, for few jaunts would be more pleasurable and so near the village.

But we must hasten after the departed colonists. Many are the meetings and discussions held upon the question of return, pivoting mostly upon the number willing to go back with them, and especially upon the company of their young minister, Mr. Man, not yet settled over them. Meanwhile they keep up their organization and choose their officers annually while these questions are settling. The spirit in which they discussed the position of their affairs finds illustration in their answer to the vote of the proprietors that they rebuild again. It is dated 8th January, 1677 : —

We whose names are beneath subcribed having formerly had our recidance in Wollomonopouge but by thos sad and sollame dispensations of God's providences were Removed, yet desire a Work for the Honour of God and the Good and comfort of ourselves and ours might be again Ingaged and Promotted att that place : Therefore our purpose is to returne

thither God willing — But knowing our owne Inability for so Great and Waytie a worke, both in Respete of our Insufficiency for the carrying on of new plantation worke, and the dangers that may yett be reanewed upon us by the heathen breaking out on us ; thinke it not safe for us to returne alone except other of the proprietors joyne to Go up along with us or Send Inhabitants to ingage in that worke with us.

Subscribed by

Elezeare Metcalf,	William Macknah,	Samuel Man,
Daniels Hawes,	Elizear Gay,	Cornelius Fisher,
Daniels Wight,	John Payne,	Joseph Kingsbury,
Robert Ware,	Benjamin Rockett,	John Ware,
John Aldis,	Nath Ware,	Micheil Willson,
Samuel Fisher,	James Mossman,	Samuelle Sheers.

As a result of this vote we find them returned to Wrentham and so far re-established as to hold a general meeting in their rebuilt meeting-house in 1685, at which date a lot of from twenty to twenty-five acres is granted for a school, and leave is given to several persons to put in a gallery into the meeting-house.

We infer that the children have grown somewhat large and saucy, too, from living in Dedham, for *two* men had already, in 1684, been chosen to keep the boys from playing on the Sabbath “in time of exercise.” They send also a petition to the General Court for permission to choose their own selectmen, like other towns, and to manage their own affairs without consulting the court’s committee — the latter, they say, being now diffienlt to get at, and besides, in their plain language, crazy and infirm in body. This petition is granted, and also a committee is ordered to lay a road between Wrentham and Medfield. This road is that now crossing Charles river at Rockville in East Medway, and along which road the Medfield people spread themselves into Franklin and became the earliest settlers of its territory.

But there is not time now to tell the several steps by which the little child in this wilderness of Wollomonopoag gradually learned to walk. How John Woodcock had a bit of land given him close to the yet unplastered and unshingled meeting-house to put up a small refreshment-house for Sabbath

day; how two watchmen, according to the colonial law, walk every night each half a mile east and west from the meeting-house to challenge stragglers and bring them before the magistrate next morning for explanation; of the watch-house to be built in 1695, or of the school-house, "so big as y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> may be a room of sixteen feet square beside convenient room for a chimney, where the selectmen will keep school in turn per week, to teach children and youth to read English and wright and cypher gratis, and begin, God willing, next Monday;" how town meetings are called to be held at 6 o'clock in the morning, and that, too, in March; and how Dorehester people, *i. e.* Foxboro, are by vote allowed to attend meeting, if they will "pay like the rest."

But the ministerial history claims a paragraph, for the Christian life of our ancestry was an element in it for more than fifty years.

Although Wollomonopoag was incorporated 17th October, 1673, as the town of Wrentham, so named from the old town in England whence some of the families came, and although Samuel Man had been called the year before, yet for the troublous times and divers hindrances, a chureh had not been gathered nor Mr. Man settled until April 13, 1692, when ten members, including the minister, were covenanted together.\*

Mr. Man was son of William and Mary (Iarsard) Man, of Cambridge, born 6th July, 1647; H. U. 1665, married Esther Ware, of Dedham, May 17, 1693, by whom he had seven sons and four daughters, and died May 22, 1719, in the forty-ninth year of his ministry.

Within seven months Rev. Henry Messenger was settled, Dec. 5, 1719. Two years after, in 1721, a new and larger house replaced the first sanctuary, to which the fathers of this town resorted until their separation in 1737 into a distinct precinct for religious purposes."

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\* They were Samuel Man (master elect), John Ware, John Guild, Benjamin Rockwood, Thomas Thurston, John Fairbank, John Fales, Eleazer Metcalf, Ephraim Pond, Samuel Fisher (first deacon).

Mr. Messenger was born in Boston, 28th February, 1695, graduated at Harvard College 1719, and married 5th January, 1720, Esther, daughter of Israel and Bridget Cheever, of Cambridge. He had seven sons and five daughters, four of whom became the wives of ministers. He was the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Messenger, and grandson of Henry and Sarah Messenger from England, in 1640. He died 30th March, 1750, in the thirty-second year of his ministry.

The town meanwhile has increased so steadily that in 1718 it is divided into four districts, and a school is kept three months in each, under a committee of three for each part—north, east, south and west, and in ten years thereafter the old school-house with its chimney is voted to be sold at auction.

In 1719 thirteen Wrentham families are set off by the General Court to Bellingham, which begets a protest and lawsuit over the town line. It begets, also, another movement of greater interest to us. For the overflow from Boggestow, or Medfield, across the Charles river has been moving on until nineteen families—"who live remote from the Public Worship and cannot attend on the same without difficulties and hardships," petition that a separate account may be kept of what every person pays towards the new meeting-house in Wrentham proper, so that it may be repaid to them whenever they shall be set off into a precinct or parish, for building a meeting-house for themselves. With this petition granted, March 13, 1720, O. S., as an anchor to the windward, shrewdly dropped when a new minister and uncontested is being settled, the western side of the town quietly wait and watch for five years longer. But, that this anchor may not drag for want of holding ground, they secure a grant of sixty acres to be laid out of the common lands in two parcels, "in the most convenient place for these people." Some of the less patient spirits—John Pond and twelve others—getting uneasy, petition in 1725 to be set off to Medway. Wrentham shakes its head. Whereupon Capt. Robert Pond and twenty others ask that a new precinct next to Belling-

ham and Charles river, six and a half miles by four and a half, may be erected. This, too, is refused ; but there is evidently some propriety in the request, for the town, at its next meeting, Sept. 21, 1725, choose a “ committee to give in reasons why the petition of the west part to be set off should not be granted.” In 1728, John Pond, Jr., and thirteen others reurge his father’s request to go to Medway. It will not be allowed yet, and there is quiet waiting again for six years more. In 1734, the westerly side moves in another direction. It asks, modestly, if a town’s committee may not come and “ state the place for the building of the meeting-house where the petitioners have agreed for the building of said meeting-house, being about seventy-three rods southwest from the house of Michal Willson ?” Nay ! Then they ask, Will the town build a meeting-house there, and finish it at the town’s cost ? Nay ! much louder. Well, then, will the town provide the west side with preaching four months in the winter season this present year ? Thinking of the long rides “ of seven, eight, and nine miles,” from River End and the City Mills in the New England snows for their western brethren, the town does give a reluctant yes, and “ the selectmen agree with Mr. Jacob Bacon to preach four months in the westerly part of the town, to begin the second Sabbath in December, and also to keep school three months from the 1st of January for £42”— £34 for the preaching, and £8 for the school.\*

A similar arrangement for the next winter’s preaching of 1735–6 is made with Mr. Hezekiah Man.†

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\* Mr. Bacon was the son of Thomas, grandson of John, and great-grandson of Michal of Dedham, 1640, who came from Ireland with a wife and four children, and died 1648. Jacob was born in Wrentham 9th September, 1706, graduated at Cambridge, 1731, and settled first minister in Keene, N. H., 18th October, 1738; dismissed in April, 1747, when the settlement was broken up by the Indians, and again settled over the third church, Plymouth, Mass., in 1749, and dismissed in 1776. He preached a year and a half in Carver, and then removed to Rowley, where he died, June, 1787, in his eighty-first year.

† Mr. Man was born 27th October, 1707, son of William, grandson of Rev. Samuel Man, the first minister of Wrentham. He graduated at Cambridge, 1731, in the same class with Mr. Bacon, and died before ordination, in 1739.

Still this compromise of a third part of a minister does *not* satisfy the west side. Perhaps a politic move may quiet it and, 11th March, 1735, the town vigorously sets off to Medway the still persistent John Pond, Jr., and his uneasy neighbors, Thomas Bacon, Jr., Samuel Pond, Richard Puffer, Joseph Ellis, Peter Adams, Samuel Fisher, and James Ellis, Jr.

But the remnant, resolute as ever, next year, in May, 1736, renew their petition for a separation; to be again refused. The town, in August, declined even to give reasons to the General Court for their negative. Nor will they, in September, remit the west side from their ministerial taxes. But in December they are willing to argue the question by a committee before the General Court, to which the west side have already applied in June, 1736, for a parish, or precinct charter, through Capt. Robert Pond, Eleazer Metcalf, and forty-six others. Such a growing list of names brings matters to a crisis. The General Court sends out a committee to view the premises, who approve of the separation in general, but refer the way and manner thereof to the agreement of the two sections interested. The town is to answer the petition at the next court session, and, therefore, a general meeting is called for Aug. 29, 1737, at which, after sundry complimentary wheresoever, a consent is voted; with the condition, however, that they move the dividing line "half a mile and forty rods" (so exact were they) further westwards. In due course of legislative action, the end is reached by the signature of Governor Belcher, Dec. 23, 1737, and the second precinct of Wrentham assumes legal existence.

Like a cutting from the parent bulb, this dependency grows, in forty years, into the town of Franklin.

The process by which the town thus severed its northern half into a precinct may not be uninteresting. The record says:—

WHEREAS, Capt. Robert Pond, Eleazer Metcalf and forty-six others inhabitants of the western part of Wrentham preferred a petition to the great and General Court in June A. D. 1736 setting forth that they have preferred a petition (as

above) praying that they may either be set off a separate township by the bounds following (the present town boundaries nearly); and whereas the Honorable Committee appointed by the General Court in last December, were ordered to repair to the westerly part of Wrentham and view the situation of the same and consider the circumstances of the petitioners and hear the parties concerned, did not report in favor of the prayer of the petitioners but were of opinion that they should be relieved from under their hardships and difficulties they complain of in another way and manner than they prayed for in their petition Unless the inhabitants of the town of Wrentham should agree upon a method among themselves for the relief of their Westerly inhabitants and report the same to the General Court at such time as said Court should appoint therefor ; and whereas, the inhabitants of this town are this day assembled in a public town meeting appointed by the selectmen agreeable to the order of the General Court to know the mind of the town by a vote, what method they will agree upon to accommodate the Westerly inhabitants who preferred a petition to the said Court in June, 1736, setting forth the great difficulties, etc., the consideration whereof being recommended to this town by the said Court;— And although it doth not appear to this town by any petition to the Court or town from the said petitioners that they desire any relief from their difficulties and hardships in any other way or manner than their being set off a separate township, which the town has denied them and given in their reasons to the General Court, yet notwithstanding the inhabitants being desirous it may appear that they are willing to come into some method agreeable to reason and justice, and as far as they are able under their present poor circumstances to accommodate the said petitioners and relieve them under the hardships and difficulties they complain of in their petition, although no proper steps be taken by the said petitioners on application made to the town therefor ; and whereas the Court ordered the Committee's report to the first Tuesday of next fall sessions that so the town of Wrentham may have opportunity to accommodate the matter among themselves :—

Wherefore voted that it is the mind of the town that all the said petitioners with their estates, that are of that mind and all such other inhabitants of this town with their estates as shall join with them living and lying within the bounds and limits following, viz.: four miles upon the Charles river from the North end of the line between Wrentham and Bellingham,

and at the end of the said four miles to run a straight line to the middle of the length of the line between Wrentham and Attleboro for their East bounds, and half the length of the line between Wrentham and Attleboro to be their South bounds; the line between Wrentham and Bellingham to be their West bounds; and Charles river to be their North bounds; be a separate Parish by themselves, and that they have leave to call and settle a minister among themselves and be discharged from paying any ministerial charges to the support of the ministry in the other part of the town so long as they maintain preaching among themselves.

Secondly, Or that all the petitioners within the bounds petitioned for by the said petitioners be a separate parish, etc., provided their Easterly bounds mentioned in their petition be set half a mile and 40 rods further westward nearer the line between Wrentham and Bellingham.

The petitioners thus set off were —

John Adams,	Eleazer Fisher,	John Fisher,
David Pond,	Simon Slocum,	David Lawrence, Jr.,
John Failes,	James New,	Eleazer Ware,
Saml. Morse,	Uriah Wilson,	Eleazer Metcalf, Jr.,
Daniel Thurston,	Edward Hall,	Ebenezer Lawrence,
Michael Wilson,	Nathl. Fisher,	Michael Metcalf,
Ezra Pond,	Saml. Partridge,	Ebenezer Hunting,
Saml. Metcalf,	Daniel MacCane,	Daniel Haws,
Ebenr. Sheckelworth,	Barch Pond,	Edward Gay,
Ebenr. Partridge,	Nathl. Fairbanks,	Ichabod Pond,
Thomas Man, Sen.,	Jonathan Wright,	Nathl. Haws,
John Smith,	Benjamin Rockwood,	David Jones,
Robert Pond,	John Richardson,	Leneard Fisher,
Eleazer Metcalf,	Job Partridge,	Ebenr. Clark,
Josiah Haws,	Thomas Rockwood,	David Lawrence, Jr.,
Joseph Whiting,	Robert Blake,	David Darling.
Total, 48.		

The first warrant to organize the new precinct is issued by Jonathan Ware, Justice of the Peace, and is addressed to Robert Pond, Daniel Haws, David Jones, Daniel Thurston, and John Adams, five of the freeholders. They are called to meet "at the house the inhabitants usually meet in for public worship" on the 16th of January, 1737-8, at 12 o'clock. When they came together they found everything to be done anew. No church, no minister, no meeting-house! They chose the necessary officers and adjourned four days for meditation. At the next meeting they go resolutely at their work. They vote £80 for preaching, and a committee to

secure it; another committee to provide materials for a meeting-house in place of the small building heretofore provided and used, to be forty feet long, thirty-one feet wide and twenty feet posts, towards which each may contribute his proportion; and especially sent a request to Wrentham for that money previously paid towards its meeting-house, and which they had sagaciously, by a vote ten years before, secured to be repaid to them whenever they should need it for a like use. It amounted to £130 11s. The request was at first refused, but four months after granted.

Meanwhile the steps for a church existence are going on. Some twenty brethren having secured letters from the mother church, the 16th of February, 1738, is kept "as a day of solemn fasting and prayer—to implore the blessing of God and His direction in the settling of a church and in order to the calling and settling of a gospel minister in said place." And there, in a large assembly the covenant is read and accepted, and Rev. Mr. Baxter of Medfield, moderator, pronounces them a duly organized church of our Lord Jesus Christ.\* Two other ministers are present, doubtless Mr. Messenger of Wrentham; and Mr. Bucknam of Medway, as being both fraternally interested in the new church. These three ministers being questioned then and there by a committee of the church, cordially commend Mr. Elias Haven, who has for a considerable time preached in the precinct, "as in some good measure qualified for the gospel ministry." The parish proceed immediately (March 23d) to choose Mr. Haven as their minister; which they do unanimously, "sixty-one yeas and not one scattering vote," with a salary of six score pounds annually by the 1st of March, old tenor, and "to rise and fall as the credit of money rises and falls from what it is this day," also with a glebe of sixty acres and £60 with it, or, if he prefer, £200 instead, for a settlement. The church at the same time agrees and formally extends a call on the 25th of August following.

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\* For a copy of this covenant, see the Manual of the First Congregational Church of Franklin.

On Nov. 8, 1738, a council gathers for the installation. The churches invited are in Hopkinton, Wrentham, Medfield, Leicester, Uxbridge, and the old and new north churches in Boston. The audience assembles near the public meeting-house — not yet finished — and before the sun sets Rev. Elias Haven has become the first pastor of this new church.

After nearly sixteen years of labor, often interrupted for months by sickness, he finally closed his painful and long wrestle with consumption Aug. 10, 1754, at forty years of age, and now rests in the old cemetery, where a still remembering town, by vote Nov. 2, 1795, forty years after his death, ordered gravestones to be set up, “the bigness of the stones with the inscription thereon to be left discretionary with a special committee.” \* The stones still stand, large and thick slate, and may be legible for another century. This long interval of forty years since Mr. Haven’s death does not imply that his grave had been all the while left without a monument. But the burial-lot had received several fits of attention, clearings, fencings, etc., and a late revision of it may have suggested that their first pastor had not been honored with sufficient distinction.

Next to the pastor in a town is the meeting-house where his motive power is applied to the community. We must not, in our hasty ramble through the century, pass by the first meeting-house of Franklin. The building of its meeting-house is always a great event in a town, and an occasion of original projects, of vigorous debates and shrewd financiering. The first topic of discussion is *a site*. In 1734, the precinct had so far proceeded as to ask Wrentham to come over and look at the place they have pitched upon among themselves for a meeting-house “about seventy-three rods southwest from the house of Michael Willson.” He lived where the old house once occupied by William Phipps stands. They had a committee in 1737 to secure materials, and Mr. Thomas Man had offered to give an acre of land to set the house on. They are now getting in a hurry, for the preacher

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\* See Ecclesiastical History, Addenda.

has been selected, and how can he preach without an audience-room !

It is the 7th of April, 1738. Five men are sent into a corner “to Debate and Consider and Perfix upon a place for Bouilding a Meeting House on and Bring it to the Precinct in one hour.” Meanwhile, the rest spend that hour in voting and unvoting, until they reach an apparent finality, to set the house “at the most convenientest place on that acre of Land That was laid out By Thomas Man for the use of the West Inhabitants in said Precinct.” But who shall decide where this “most convenientest place” is ? Mr. Plimpton, “survair” of Medfield, is selected to bring his implements to bear on the solution ; who reports for the west corner of Man’s lot, “as near as they conveniently can.” But next year, May 9, 1739, a new question arises, whether this be in the exact center of the precinct, and a new surveyor is called to *this* problem. He and his two chainmen are put under oath to honestly survey the ground where the meeting-house must shortly lie.

May 23 he reports in writing as follows :—

To the Inhabitants of Wrentham Westerly Precinct, Gent<sup>l</sup>: These may Inform you that I the Subscriber Have Been and Measured to find the Center of s<sup>d</sup> Precinct, Mess<sup>s</sup>. Decon Barber and Benj. Rockwood being chainmen, and according to what we find by Measuring on the Ground from the Northerly End to the Southerly End, and from the Westerly Side to the Easterly Side of the Same I find the Center of s Measuring to be South westerly from the Present Meeting house a little Beter then an Hundred Rods, where we Pitched a Stake and Made an heap of Stones.

ELEAZER FISHER, Surveyor.

He was of Dedham, the chainmen were of Medway.

This central pivot of the whole parish having been scientifically determined, which is said to have been in the middle of Darius Morse’s mud-pond, at a cost of £11 2s., they order the committee to “hire workmen instantly, and raise, cover, inclose, and glaze the meeting-house, lay the lower floor and cover with boards and shingles,” and vote £200 towards the

cost. This summer of 1739 sees the barn-like building arise, and in September another committee are putting in the seats according to the timber provided, and “one lock and key, and bolts and latches for the doors and eants” for the gallery stairs, and also foundation for the pulpit and the pulpit stairs, and rails round the galleries and make five “pillows,” — a small number for a modern audience. The bills, presented 3d March, 1740, show that the committees had been reasonably expeditious. The final cost was £338 13s. 6d., as reported in October, 1741. The boys, too, were promptly at work, for in July, 1740, Captain Fairbanks is directed to get the windows mended and to prosecute the depredators.

*Pari passu* with the meeting-house arose the horse houses, whose long strings of successors afterwards made the Franklin Common so famous. They were all planted and grew on Thomas Man’s acre. Among them were Richard Puffer’s “small diner house,” and Isaac Heton and Dr. Jones had a “small noon house.”

With the sanctuary finished — with a pew on each side of the pulpit, a deacon’s seat in front and long benches filling the rest of the house — next comes the ticklish question of seating the audience. Gravely a special committee count the years and measure the tax-bills of the fathers, and so assign their places “according to age and estate,” as they were instructed. Some wish to build pews at their own expense, but the precinct resolutely refuses assent. The *place* and not the *kind* of seat is sufficient graduation; for the straight bench is the throne of demoeracy.

Of this oldest real meeting-house no sketch, or picture, or ideal survives, save that I remember to have seen some of its *windows* in an old house. The sashes were two feet square, with five-inch panes of glass set diagonally in lead, as the fashion then was. The meeting-house stood on the slight hill north of the present Catholie church, in a surrounding girth of pitch pines. It was guarded by platoons of horse-sheds and small dinner-houses, where the forefathers of the hamlet

shared their lunch and the mothers nursed their infants in the hour's intermission of the Sabbath noons.

This house was subjected to occasional modifications as the congregation increased and the taste changed. The objection to pews yielded gradually. In 1755, Capt. John Goldsbury is allowed "to build a small pew joining to the pew left of the pulpit, at his own charge," and it is liked so well that in March following they vote to alter the meeting-house generally, building seats along the front of the galleries, convenient for men to sit on, and also hind seats in the galleries. The seats under the galleries are converted into pew-lots, and "such men as it may fall to by lot in order of age and estate may build there if they will, provided if they leave town the pew shall revert to the precinct." The meeting-house, however, is gradually aging in spite of repairs and frequent mendings of broken windows. But Michael Willson, the first sexton, keeps it as tidily as he can until Uriah Willson (his son) takes the broom, with occasional respite from Joshua Daniels, Jonathan Archer, and Elisha Partridge, until the ancient sanctuary is left to sleep undisturbed in its dust on its little hill. For the precinct, getting ready now to emerge into a township, begins to plan about the freedom-suit of a new meeting-house to wear on assuming its coming dignity of a town.

But before we quite leave the old sanctuary, we must step within long enough to listen to what was called the old way of singing. We take up one of the few books—an "Old Bay Psalm book," which has been used since 1640 in all the churches in the colony. The eight tunes at the end are from Ravenscroft's collection of 1618. The chorister starts the tune with his pitch pipe. The congregation follow, each in his own fashion and at his own pace, according to the old style in which his grandmother sang the tune in Wrentham or Dedham half a century ago. All sing the same part with an energy begotten of facing northeasters and felling forest trees and driving strings of oxen among their stumps. No two persons sing alike, and the singing consequently sounds,

as Rev. Thomas Walter said, “like five hundred different tunes roared out at the same time.”\* In one sense it is like the voice of many waters, and this is called the old way of singing.

It had already become a grievance to the ministers who wished to make melody in their hearts unto the Lord, and strenuous efforts had been begun to bring the people back to some harmony of voice, as well as of sentiment. Hence we appreciate this emphatic vote of the precinct June 26, 1738, immediately after the gathering of the young church, viz.:—“To sing no other tunes than are Pricked Down in our former Psalm Books which were Printed between Thirty and forty years Ago, and To Sing Them as They are Prickt down in them as Near as they can.” This was a Precinct blow at the old way of singing. The older people remonstrated; but the Precinct refused, in September, “to ease those that were inclined to sing the old way.” The church, March 8, 1738–9, voted not to sing in the old way, but by rule, *i. e.*, according to note; and they chose Joseph Whiting to set the tune in the church. This action of the church, so curiously put in the negative form, has a key to its significance in a solemn query raised, the record says, “toward the close” of the meeting. As it proved the seed of a large and slow harvest it claims mention. The query is, “to see what notice the church will take of one of the brethren’s striking into a pitch of the tune unusually raised February 18th.” After considerable consultation, the record says, and there well might be, for it was like the spot of Paul’s shipwreck, the place where two seas met, it was voted:—

WHEREAS, our brother David Pond, as several of our brethren, viz.: David Jones, Ebenezer Hunting, Benjamin Rockwood, Jr., Aaron Haws, and Michael Metcalf apprehend, struck into a pitch of the tune on February 18th, in the public worship in the forenoon, raised above what was set; after most of the congregation, as is thought, kept the pitch for three lines, and after our pastor had desired them that had

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\* Hood’s History of Music in N. E., p. 84.

raised it to fall to the pitch that was set to be suitable, decent, or to that purpose; the question was put, whether the church apprehends this our brother David Pond's so doing to be disorderly; and it passed in the affirmative, and David Pond is suspended until satisfaction is given.

But David Pond was frozen over by this cooling of his high musical ardor, nor would he be thawed into any melting confession. Though the church sent the tender of a reference, he would not meet them. They invite him to a special prayer meeting, but he will not bend. They vote a solemn admonition. He proposes a council; that declined he calls an *ex parte* council, which is not acknowledged. Then he goes into the second church in Medway, which asks questions about his case and gets a distinct letter in reply, which is followed by a second and more emphatic about harboring malcontents, and a third, too, with replies from Medway—all unsatisfactory. At last, in September, 1751, over thirteen years after that high pitching of the tune, the warmth of a continuous interest melts the icy barriers, and this Pond flows forth in a confession (12th January, 1751-2) and the Medway church joins in sundry acknowledgments (14th February, 1752), and thus the discord is brought down to concert pitch again and the hymn flows on.

But those longings for singing the old way were not confined to one sturdy pro-advocate. The battlefield was staked out at once (May 18, 1739) by a vote of the church, "that the man that tunes the Psalm in the congregation be limited till further direction to some particular tunes, and the tunes limited are Canterbury, London, Windsor, St. David's, Cambridge, Short 100th and 148th Psalm tunes, and Benjamin Rockwood, Jr., to tune the Psalm." A movement, 30th of January, 1745, to enlarge this musical area was promptly repelled. They will have only a moderate new way, even though when Benjamin Rockwood cannot sing for the failure of his voice, and they choose Jabez Fisher in his place, he declines because the catalogue of tunes is too short for him to enter among them. But this refusal begets thought;

and four years' practice has so worn out the eight permitted notes that (April 5, 1749) the church takes off the limitation. They also dismiss Joseph Whiting as chorister and put his pitch-pipe into the mouth of Barnabas Metcalf. With an unlimited range for tunes, the hymn now goes along like a flowing brook, and —

“ Chatters over stony ways  
In little sharps and trebles ”

— for aught I know until this day.

Meanwhile both church and precinct have another anxious care on hand. Their pastor's health has been failing, and with tender helpfulness they have eased his waning strength of pulpit labors by generous contributions, until his decease in 1744.\* Now comes that most trying experience of hearing candidates to select a successor. For the modern expedient of a make-believe, acting pastor has not occurred to them, and they sit patiently down to hear and scrutinize whomever the precinct may bring before them. In succession come Aaron Putnam, Jason Haven, Stephen Holmes, Thomas Brooks, Mr. Norton, Joseph Manning whom they ask to stay, but he declines; Messrs. Parsons, Goodhue, Phillips Payson, who declines their call; Jesse Root, Nathan Holt, who will not tarry though invited; John Eals, Mr. Gregory, and Caleb Barnam. He, the fourteenth, is besought by 102 votes to bring their uncertainty to an end, and £133 settlement and £70 salary are laid before him as a temptation. After some months of deliberation he accepts, and, June 4, 1760, the second minister of this precinct is settled by the elders and messengers of the churches in Danbury, Ct., the two in Medway, in Attleboro, Wrentham, Walpole, two in Mendon and Upton.

The exercises were: Introductory prayer by Rev. A. Frost, of Second Church, Mendon (now Milford); sermon by Rev. Phillips Payson, of Walpole; installing prayer by Rev. Nathan Bucknam, of First Church, Medway; charge by Rev. Joseph

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\* For further notice of Rev. Mr. Haven see Ecclesiastical History.

Dorr, of Mendon; right hand of fellowship by Rev. Joseph Bean, of Wrentham.

The church had voted "to conduct themselves agreeable to the sentiments and advice of the Convention of Ministers of this Province in a paper printed June, 1759, for the Reformation of Disorders on the Days of Ordination of Ministers."

Mr. Barnam's pastorate lasted less than eight years. He was dismissed March 6, 1768, and was resettled in Taunton, whence he went as chaplain into the Continental army and died of the camp disease at Pittsfield, Aug. 23, 1776. But his brief pastorate in Franklin was full of incidents, debates and differences — not the least among them being the war of the hymn books.

This may have arisen with the subsidence of the pastoral problem. But come it did even before the ordination, in the guise of two church votes April 15, 1760, first to sing Dr. Watts' version of the psalms, and second, "the pastor may not refuse to lead the church to vote as above mentioned." There is to be no Connecticut Consociationism in this church; and to settle it they vote, "when any member wants to bring up a business which the pastor thinks improper, if he cannot satisfy the person, he *shall* bring it to the church, and *they* shall decide whether to appoint a hearing." Such a vote indicates that the sides are forming for a fight over the new hymn book. As nearly as we can read the banners in the smoke of the conflict, there are three parties in the field — Old Bay psalm book, Tate and Brady's version, and Dr. Watt's version. Between them the conflict wavers with varying sign. Dec. 10, 1761, the church vote to "sing Tate and Brady's version, together with the hymns bound in the same volume, till 1st of March next." (This was the new edition of 1741). April 28, this time is prolonged indefinitely. But on the 21st of June comes this volley from the parish:—

Voted, that the parish make use of that version of the psalms in their public worship on the Lord's day and at other

times as occasion shall require (no surreptitious uses), which was made use of in this place, before the Rev. Mr. Barnam had his invitation to settle with this people; commonly called the old version of the psalms composed for the use and benefit of the congregations of New England.

The clerk is instructed to wait upon Mr. Barnam with this vote, desiring that he will adhere to and conform with it. Nine days after, June 30, the church replies by a vote to give the parish the choice of Watts, Tate and Brady, or a council. September 6, the parish refuses either. Nov. 28, 1763, about a year after this refusal, the church sends, as a flag of truce, the acceptance of a council to sit on this edge of dispute, composed of the Medway first, Wrentham and Mendon second churches, if the parish will pay the expenses; which the parish accepts December 26, with this sharp definition of the points in arbitration—whether to sing Dr. Watts' version of the psalms, or Tate and Brady's version, together with the hymns bound with them. The Old Bay psalm book appears to have withdrawn, disabled, from the field. April 17, 1764, the council meets, in which the two churches in Medway, in Walpole, Sutton, Wrentham and Milford are represented by six pastors and ten delegates; which council after sharp reproofs to each side, advises them to sing the version of Dr. Watts in part, together with our New England version in part. Thus the hymn books are relegated to the arena to endure the working of the law of "the survival of the fittest."

The church muses upon this result from April until November, and then asks the council to come together again and explain their meaning. They re-meet in June, expound, and the church accepts the exposition on the 4th of July, 1765, by a vote of forty-eight to fifteen, just eleven years before the Declaration of our National Independence. Some of the parish, still in the fog, try to revive the issue in their meeting of January next, but the parish will not open it; and, so far as appears, it has remained practically shut unto the present day, Dr. Watts having had the field for nearly ninety

years, until the Puritan hymn book, born in Mendon Association, crowded him onto the shelf of antiques.

We are now, in our hasty trip down the past, coming into the outer edge of the storm-cloud of the Revolution. Restlessness is everywhere—in church and in state, in town and in country. This western precinct is full of uneasiness and debate, to which we cannot stop to listen. But the people are not disposed to neglect home interests, although the French and Indian wars, the depopulation of Acadia and the encroachments of the British crown appeal so earnestly to their attention. They have not forgotten the hymn which they learned at their mother's knee—

“Whatever brawls disturb the street  
There should be peace at home;  
Where sisters dwell and brothers meet  
Quarrels should never come,”

and therefore they set themselves to composing their disturbances from the hymn book war, the complaints against the ministry and other ecclesiastical differences which have been developed thereby. It is a troublous time, but there are heroic men to control it, and they set themselves down to the difficult problem.

First of all, the empty pulpit must be filled with a pastor. The committee present one preacher after another, some of whom fail to meet with favor, and some are called, but—such is the discouraging aspect of things—decline the invitation. Of those so called are, Mr. Elijah Fitch, but he went to Hopkinton; Mr. Nathan Perkins, but he chose West Hartford, Ct. Disheartened by these failures, they ponder if the meeting-house—now, in 1770, over thirty years old and too small for the large congregation, as well as antique in fashion—may not be a hindrance to their success, by indicating a spiritual negligence. The result is that in 1772, February 3, they detail five men “to consult upon the Conveniences and Ill Conveniences of Enlarging and Repairing their meeting-house, and to Draw a plan thereof and report.”

The result is that at the meeting of the parish on March 9, they vote “to Build a new meeting-house so Soon as it may be effected with Common Prudence and the circumstances of the people,” and send out five men to search for that movable north pole of the congregation — “the Senter of the precinct.” These five failing to find it, in April fifteen men, more sharp-eyed, perhaps, are delegated to help them. Twenty such men as Franklin can furnish (so quick at this time to detect theological differences and measure metres) will hardly miss the precise point, though the search may take all summer. September 7, they report the most commodious place to be “about eighty rods southerly from where the meeting-house now stands, between the two roads leading from the meeting-house to Mr. Pond’s and the burying-ground.” This report is accepted, and a committee is chosen to see on what terms the land can be bought and convenient roads obtained to the new site.

While this question of a new meeting-house is thus favorably progressing, a small young man with a thin voice has been bashfully essaying to fill the pulpit in the old house on the hill. He came from Yale College in 1767, and has, since his approbation as a minister in October, 1769, been preaching in New York State and in New Hampshire. He has declined a call to settle in Campton, N. H., and may be elsewhere, because he feels himself “a speckled bird” for his positive opinions. But somehow the committee of supply have heard of him and ask him to occupy their vacant pulpit. He, too, has heard of the second precinct in Wrentham, and that it contains two very vigorous and bellicose parties. He cannot hope, as he afterwards said, that “nobody but little Nat Emmons” can unite them.

But the night before he reaches town, he dreams that while riding along he sees a quail start out from the bushes on the right side, and anon another quail venture from the left side of the way. Thinking, What if I can catch both of them, he creeps softly towards them with his three-cornered hat in his

hand and clasps it successfully over both.\* Encouraged by this omen, for he always preferred to see the new moon over his right shoulder, he comes one Saturday night to this bellicose parish, and on Sunday morning into its little meeting-house among the pines, wondering where a congregation is to come from when hardly a house is in sight. But when they gather on foot and horse-back and by carriage-loads and fill it to overflowing, to listen so sharply and shrewdly to his clear-cut and logical sentences, his two quails have changed to more inspiriting and difficult game. However, the little self-diffluent young man so well succeeds that on Nov. 30, 1772, the church invite him, by a vote of thirty-two out of thirty-four present, to become their pastor ; and the precinct, fourteen days after, give a hearty amen to the choice.

April 21, 1773, Nathanael Emmons is settled as third pastor of this people. The service was, like that of both his predecessors, held outside the meeting-house, in a valley west of the present Catholic church ; so that he was literally, as he said, “ordained not over but *under* the people.”

With the settlement of Dr. Emmons, whose ministry extended down to the memory of so many of us, and of whose character and influence as a master in theology so much has been written, and so ably, I may, though reluctantly, omit from this address any farther account of our ecclesiastical history, referring you to the book to be published for its subsequent phases. I have presented so much of it because for the first century of the country church, preeinet, and town were practically identieal, and their history one.

The ministerial question being settled with brightening prospects of permanency, which is really the central interest of a New England town, we may take a hasty glanee at its civil progress.

The spirit of self-dependence which secured the separate parochial organization in 1738, found itself as much incommoded in going to Wrentham for town business as it had

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\* See Professor Park's Memoir of Emmons. Works. Vol. I.





been for religious worship. As early as 1740, a motion was made in this precinct to petition Wrentham to become a town by themselves, but there was not outside sympathy enough to carry it. The next year there was a movement to make a new town out of slices from Wrentham and Medway. This also failed. The next spring, in 1742, it was proposed to build a town from the corners of Wrentham, Medway, Bellingham, and Holliston. This met a like fate. A movement for a new precinct at the northwest, in 1747, was stopped, as well as another, in 1748, at the north end. These abortive motions for a narrower area were too many to mention. But March 4, 1754, a more serious step was adopted by the precinct, to petition both Wrentham and the General Court to be set off into a separate district, and a committee was chosen to engineer the project. But Wrentham simply refused the petition, without condescending to describe its purport on its records. Thus baffled in every movement for a district township, and full of other matters difficult of adjustment and expensive, aroused also by the Stamp Act and other Lord North's vagaries, the people concluded to bide their time and go to Wrentham to vote or stay at home. So the town question had rest until the exigencies of the War of Independence called for still more frequent and energetic gatherings. Then it came up in earnest. In the war meetings necessary — seven in that current year of 1777 — it was a burden to travel from five to eight miles to Wrentham, and the population had become large enough to justify the civil separation of the two religious precincts. Therefore, Dec. 29, 1777, a petition is addressed to Wrentham for "liberty to be set off into a district township, according to grant of court that they were at first incorporated into a precinct, with a part of said town's money and stocks." Dea. Jabez Fisher, Esq., Jonathan Metcalf, Samuel Sethbridge, Asa Whiting, Dr. John Metcalf, Jos. Hawes, and Capt. John Boyd, chief men of the precinct, are put in charge of the matter. Wrentham responds, January 26, by adopting certain terms, and sends a committee of nine

to give attention to the arguments of the Westerners. The result reported by the joint committee, February 21, is a unanimous conclusion that "said inhabitants be Set off as a Separate township by themselves," and the process is begun.

In the further arrangements it is suggestive of the thrift of the whole town that there are but five paupers, two only of whom fall to the new town. It is agreed that the fire-arms, important assets now in 1777, be divided by the relative pool and estate, and the powder, ball, flints, and other stores of that kind, according to the number of training-band and alarm list. The men raised for the Continental army are to be proportionally paid for and accredited to the town's quota. The salt allowed by the General Court is divided, and all other properties adjusted. After lengthy discussion and some scruples, whose phraseology suggests the sharp watch of Jabez Fisher, the precinct accepts the terms of the town and elects a committee to present their petition to the General Court. Among the acts of 1778 appears the charter of incorporation, dated in the House of Representatives, February 27, and in the council March 2.

The petition which sets forth the arguments of our fathers for a separate civil existence, and the act by which such an existence was established, are of interest enough to be here inserted.

*To the Honorable Council & House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay in General Court Assembled:*

The petition of the subscribers in behalf of the inhabitants of the West Precinct in Wrentham Humbly sheweth:—

That the Township of Wrentham is Considerably Large and the inhabitants with their Lands & improvements are situated very much in two Divisions and but thinly settled Between the two Precincts, the Lands admitting of but few settlements. That the Publick Business of the Town Necessary to be Transacted is very Considerable and has Long been Complained of as a Burden by those who are obliged to take a part, by means of Travil & Fatigue together with the Disappointments that often take place, That your Petitioners apprehend themselves sufficient in Number and Ability for a Town,

and that in many Respects y<sup>e</sup> advantages to them would be much greater than to remain in their present situation. That they have lately obtained a vote of the Town Expressing their willingness that your petitioners should be incorporated into a Town by the following Bound, viz Begining at Charles river where Medfield line comes to said river thence running south seventeen Degrees and an half west untill it comes to one rod east of the Dwelling House of M<sup>r</sup> William Man thence a strait line to the easterly Corner of M<sup>r</sup> Asa Whitings Barn, thence a strait line to sixty rod, Due south of the old Cellar where the Dwelling House of Eben<sup>r</sup> Healey formally stood a Due west Course by the Needle to Bellingham line said Bellingham line to be y<sup>e</sup> West Bounds and Charles river to be the Northerly Bounds your pet<sup>rs</sup> Therefore Humbly pray That your Honors wou'd be pleased to incorporate them into a Town by y<sup>e</sup> above Discribed Bound, With the same powers & Privileges that are allowed to other Towns within this state.

And your pet<sup>rs</sup> as in Duty Bound shall pray

SAM<sup>EL</sup> LETHBRIDG,  
JOSEPH HAWES  
JOSEPH WHITING JR

Com<sup>tee</sup>

State of Massachusetts }  
Bay } In the year of our LORD 1778.

*AN ACT incorporating the Westerly Part of the Town of WRENTHAM in the County of SUFFOLK into a Town by the name of FRANKLIN.*

WHEREAS the Inhabitants of the Westerly part of the Town of Wrentham in the County of Suffolk have Represented to this Court the Difficulties they Labour under in their present situation and pprehending themselves of sufficient Numbers & Ability request that they may be incorporated into a sepe- rate Town.

Be it Therefore Enacted By the Council & House of Repre- sentatives in General Court Assembled & by the Authority of the same That the Westerly part of said Town of Wrentham seperated by a line as follows, viz Begining at Charles river where Medfield line comes to said river, thence running south seventeen degrees and an half west untill it comes to one rod East of y<sup>e</sup> Dwelling House of William Man thence a strait line to the eastwardly corner of Asa Whiting' barn, thence a strait line to sixty rods due south of the old celler where the Dwelling House of Ebenezer Healy formerly stood thence a Due

West Course by the Needle to Bellingham line, said Bellingham line to be the West Bounds and Charles river the North-erly Bounds, Be and hereby is incorporated into Distinct and seperate Town by the name of Franklin and invested with all the powers Privileges and immunities that Towns in this state do or may enjoy.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the inhabitants of said Town of Franklin shall pay their proportion of all state county and Town Charges already granted to be raised in the Town of Wrentham and also their proportion of the pay of the Representative for the present Year and the said Towns of Wrentham and Town of Franklin shall severally be held punctually to stand by & perform to each other the Terms & proposals Contained and Expressed in a vote of the Town of Wrentham passed at Publick Town Meeting the sixteenth Day of February 1778 according to y<sup>e</sup> plain and obvious meaning thereof, and

Be it also Enacted by y<sup>e</sup> Authority aforesaid. That Jabez Fisher, Esq<sup>r</sup> Be & he hereby is authorized & required to issue his warrant to one of the principal inhabitants of said Town of Franklin, authorizing & requiring him to Notify and warn the Freeholders & other inhabitants of said Town to meet together at such time and place as shall be expressed in said warrant. To choose such officers as Towns are authorized by Law to Choose and Transact other such Lawfull matters as shall be expressed in said warrant.

And be it further enacted That the inhabitants living within y<sup>e</sup> Bonnds aforesaid who in the Late Tax in the Town of wrentham were rated one half part so much for their Estates and Faculties as for one single Poll shall be taken and Holden to be Qualified and be allowed to Vote in their first Meeting for the Choice of officers and such other meetings as may be Called in said Town of Franklin untill a valuation of Estates shall be made by Assessors there.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Feby. 27, 1778.

This Bill having been read

three several times passed to be engrossed. Sent up for Concurrence,  
J. WARREN SYKE

IN COUNCIL, March 2d, 1778.

This Bill having had two several Readings, passed a Concurrence, to be engrossed.  
JNO. AVERY, Dpy. Secy

In the original draft of the charter, as preserved in the State archives, the name of this town is written throughout Exeter. In some of the readings during its passage, that name was erased, and overwritten Franklin. In all the votes of this precinct and of Wrentham, I find no name suggested for the new town. They probably left its christening to the honored General Court. But why the name of Exeter was first inserted in the act, and why afterwards changed to Franklin, is a conundrum for the curious. I venture to suggest, however, that if the committee in charge of the petition were asked for a name of the new township, or if they were dissatisfied with the proposed Exeter, there was none of them more likely to suggest a change than its chairman, Jabez Fisher — an ardent patriot of liberty, and a prominent man in state councils; and the reasons for preferring the name of Franklin to that of Exeter are not less apparent.

It will be remembered that Benjamin Franklin, with two others, had been sent to France immediately upon the Declaration of Independence in 1776 to negotiate a treaty of recognition and alliance. But the French government cautiously dallied with him until the close of 1777. But the news of the capture of Burgoyne removed their hesitations, and on the 6th of January Louis XVI entered into a treaty of amity and commerce with the colonies. The news came rapidly to this country, and it was a graceful tribute to the successful diplomatist, Franklin, that the town, just at that date applying for incorporation, should bear his name.

Though we may be among the smallest of the twenty-nine Franklins in our tribes of Columbia, besides the nineteen Franklinvilles, Franklinton, etc., yet we are the first-born heir of this large family, and oldest to the honors of the distinguished name. We may well commemorate our birthday with centennial rejoicings.

The ambassador to St. Cloud, as soon as his weighty duties permitted, showed that he himself understood and appreciated the compliment. For he requested Dr. Price, of

London, to make choice of proper books for a library for Franklin, as his acknowledgment to his namesake in Massachusetts.\* That library contained, according to the earliest catalogue extant, 116 volumes, many of them folios, and of which the most secular and frivolous was the life of Baron Trenk. It has become the basis of a public library of 3,000 volumes.

And Dr. Franklin had no occasion to be ashamed of either the intelligence or the patriotism of his namesake town; for its prompt and unanimous participation in all the trying times of the War of Independence fully assured him of both. The responses of this town were prompt and hearty to every movement in defense of the liberties of the colonies—even from the time of the salary debate with Governor Burnet in 1728 unto the acknowledgment of their independence in 1783. Whether the calls were for troops or for money, for opinions upon policies or protests against royal aggressions, the town always answered, and in no lukewarm words or ambiguous actions. Indeed, some of the papers reported by special committees and adopted by this town are worthy of careful study in this day of wordy ambiguities, as models of patriotic and broad political sense not surpassed even by the wise colonial proclamations. And this is not surprising when the wisest and best men of the town were chosen as the Committee of Correspondence, Representatives to the General Court, and delegates to District Conventions.

It is now well known that Boston, as the metropolis of New England, and especially restive under its so close contact with the officers of the British crown, vigilantly watched their every movement, and informed the committees of correspondence of each town in its vicinity. The towns replied vigorously to these Boston letters. Thus the pulsations of liberty beat isochronously in all patriotic hearts, and a unified purpose gathered into strength in every arm. That sympathy of intelligence and feeling was the spirit of ultimate victory; for

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\* See Addenda for more extended notice of the Franklin Library.

the resisting Bostonians knew whom they had behind them, hid away in the little hamlets and on the scattered farms to the north, west and south of the Bay. When, therefore, they sounded the alarm on the attempted seizure of the stores at Concord, in a few hours twenty thousand armed men from the country towns hurried to Boston and barricaded it from Dorchester to Chelsea, as if they would force Governor Gage and his soldiers into the sea. In all these movements, Franklin was never a whit behind. It had more than one man in it like Jabez Fisher, whose fervor kindled and whose wisdom directed its action perpetually. But Fisher's hand is especially traceable in the reports and resolves of the town during the revolutionary period.

The Stamp Act of 1765 called forth a very earnest protest from the town. But the letter from Boston in 1772, on the Governor's assumption that the colonial charter should be interpreted or revoked even, at the pleasure of the King, and on the order of Parliament that the salaries of the Governor, Judges, &c., should be taken directly from the American revenues, instead of paid by grant of the General Court as aforetime, awakened a deep and wide alarm, and drew out vigorous responses from all the towns. Boston denounced the assumption as an infraction of its charter, and the parliamentary order as a direct and long step towards despotism. The letter to the towns—after a recital of the facts—closes thus: “Let us consider, brethren, we are struggling for our best rights and inheritance, which being infringed renders all blessings precarious in their enjoyment, and consequently trifling in their value. Let us disappoint the men who are raising themselves on the ruin of this country. Let us convince every invader of our freedom that we will be as free as the Constitution our Fathers recognized will justify.” Of this appeal, and the historical statements accompanying, over six hundred copies were printed and sent to the towns. The copy sent to Franklin drew out a long and vigorous statement of our fathers' theory of their rights.

Their paper deserves a place in this history of their times, as showing their clear appreciation of the situation. It was adopted in a public town meeting, 11th January, 1773:—

1. Resolved that the British Constitution is grounded on the eternal law of Nature, a Constitution whose foundation and center is liberty, which sends liberty to any subject that is or may happen to be within any part of its ample circumference.

2. That every part of the British dominions hath a right freely to enjoy all the benefits and privileges of this happy Constitution, and that no power of Legislation or Governors on Earth can justly abridge or deprive any part of the British dominions from their liberties, without doing violence to his happy Constitution and its true principles.

3. That every part of the British dominions in which acts of the British Parliament are exercised contrary to the true principles of the Constitution have always and ought to have a right to petition and remonstrate, or join in petitioning and remonstrating to the King, Lords and Commons of Great Britain, that all such acts of Parliament may speedily be removed, abrogated and repealed.

4. That the Province of Massachusetts Bay have a right, not only by nature and the laws of England, but by social compact, to enjoy all the rights, liberties and immunities of natural and freeborn subjects of Great Britain to all intents and purposes whatever; and that acts of the British Parliament imposing rates and duties of the inhabitants of this Province, while they are unrepresented in the Parliament of Great Britain, are violations of those rights and ought to be contended for with firmness.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this town that the act of the British Parliament in assuming the power of Legislation for the Colonies in all cases whatsoever, and in consequence of that act have carried into execution that assumed power in laying duties on divers articles in the Colonies for the express purpose of raising a revenue without their consent, either by themselves or their Representatives, whereby the right which any man has to his own property is wholly taken away and destroyed; and what is more alarming still is, to see the amazing inroads which have been made and still are making in our charter rights and privileges by placing a Board of Commissioners amongst us under so large a com-

mission with a train of attendants to sap the foundation of our industry — our Coasts surrounded with fleets — standing armies placed in free cities in time of peace without the consent of the inhabitants, whereby the streets of the Metropolis of this Province have been stained with the blood of its innocent inhabitants ; the Governor of this Province made independent of the grants of the General Assembly ; large salaries affixed to the Lieutenant-Governor, the Judges of the Admiralty, etc. ; the amazing stretch of the power of the courts of Vice, admitting in a great measure depriving the people in the Cols. of their right to trial by Jury and such like innovations, which are intolerable grievances, tending wholly to deprive us of our Charter rights and privileges, pull down the Constitution and reduce us to a state of abject slavery.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this town that the prevailing report, which they have reason to apprehend is well-grounded, that further inroads are contemplating on their rights and liberties by affixing stipends to the offices of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Judicature, etc., whereby they are to be made wholly independent of the grants of the General Assembly for their support, is such a large stride towards despotism as fills us with fresh and more alarming fears of further invasions of our rights and privileges being trampled upon, viz : By making the Judges thus dependent upon the Crown for their place and support will have a tendency to bribe the present respectable gentlemen to become tools to a despotic administration, and if that should fail, it will be easy to supply their seats with those calculated for such a purpose. 2d, Thus calculated, nothing will be wanting but an absolute Government which may be over the Province qualified with new acts of Parliament adapted to their purpose which would exclude every individual in this Province from asserting and supporting his rights, and turn the sacred stream of justice into but little short of an unwarranted inquisition.

*Resolved*, That this town ever acknowledge the care and vigilance which the town of Boston have discovered in stating the rights of the Colonies in so just a manner, and in pointing out the many infringements and violations of those rights this Province labors under, at the same time assuring them that as this town hopes never to be wanting in their duty and loyalty to their King, so they are ever ready to do everything

in their power in a constitutional way to assist in carrying into execution such measures as may be adapted to remove those difficulties we feel, and to prevent those we have reason to fear.

In the name of the Committee,

DAVID MAN.

The committee were David Man, Capt. John Smith, Jabez Fisher, Lemuel Kollock, Thomas Man.

This was the key-note of every resolve passed by the town in its thirty-one town meetings held in the five years between January, 1773—the beginning of Governor Hutchinson's assumptions—and February 16, 1778—the last meeting held before the separation of Franklin from Wrentham. This trumpet certainly gave no uncertain sound of the coming conflict with royal dictation.

The town, also, had a way in those days of instructing their representatives to the General Court how to act on measures which touched their vital interests. These papers expressed the sentiments of the citizens, and became, therefore, valuable indices of the popular convictions. Amongst the most expressive of these papers, and certainly very suggestive of the ripeness for independence of this part of the colony, are the instructions adopted in the town meeting of June 5, 1776. They have a ring of liberty whose echoes ought to thrill in the ears of the supple and molluscous men of these hesitating times. They are addressed “to Mr. Benjamin Guild, Mr. Joseph Hawes, and Doct. Ebenezer Daggett, chosen to represent the town of Wrentham in the General Assembly, the ensuing year:—

Gentlemen, We, your constituents, in full town meeting, June 5, 1776, give you the following instructions:—

Whereas, Tyranny and oppression, a little more than one century and a half ago, obliged our forefathers to quit their peaceful habitations, and seek an asylum in this distant land, amidst an howling wilderness, surrounded with savage enemies, destitute almost of every convenience of life was their unhappy situation; but such was their zeal for the common rights of mankind, that they (under the smile of Divine

Providence), surmounted every difficulty, and in a little time were in the exercise of civil government under a charter of the crown of Great Britain:—but after some years had passed, and the colonies had become of some importance, new troubles began to arise. The same spirit which caused them to leave their native land still pursued them, joined by designing men among themselves—letters began to be wrote against the government, and the first charter soon after destroyed; in this situation some years passed before another charter could be obtained, and although many of the gifts and privileges of the first charter were abridged by the last, yet in that situation the government has been tolerably quiet until about the year 1763; since which the same spirit of oppression has risen up; letters by divers ill-minded persons have been wrote against the Government, (in consequence of which divers acts of the British Parliament made, mutilating and destroying the charter, and wholly subservive of the constitution); fleets and armies have been sent to enforce them, and at length a civil war has commenced, and the sword is drawn in our land, and the whole united colonies involved in one common cause; the repeated and humble petitions of the good people of these colonies have been wantonly rejected with disdain; the Prince we once adored has now commissioned the instruments of his hostile oppression to lay waste our dwellings with fire and sword, to rob us of our property, and wantonly to stain the land with the blood of its innocent inhabitants; he has entered into treaties with the most cruel nations to hire an army of foreign mercenaries to subjugate the colonies to his cruel and arbitrary purposes. In short, all hope of an accommodation is entirely at an end, a reconciliation as dangerous as it is absurd; a recollection of past injuries will naturally keep alive and kindle the flames of jealousy. We, your constituents, therefore think that to be subject or dependent on the crown of Great Britain would not only be impracticable, but unsafe to the state; the inhabitants of this town, therefore, in full town meeting, Unanimously instruct and direct you (*i. e.* the representatives) to give your vote that, if the Honorable American Congress (in whom we place the highest confidence under God,) should think it necessary for the safety of the United Colonies to declare them independent of Great Britain, that we your constituents with our lives and fortunes will most cheerfully support them in the measure.

The record of this arousing utterance, less than a month before the famous 4th of July, 1776, very modestly says: "The above report, after being several times distinctly read and considered by the town, was unanimously voted in the affirmative *without even one dissentient.*"

But these votes, unlike the resolves of many later conventions, meant all they avowed of work, self-denial, blood — for the records of the town show that carefully deliberated and resolutely formed determinations lay behind them. The men of that time had put their hands to the plow with no intention of looking back until their furrows had uprooted every transplant of a foreign monarchy in this land of freedom. Accordingly, on the first open aggression of the coming collision, when Governor Gage encamped his troops on Boston Common, the town voted, Sept. 15, 1774, to buy two pieces of cannon, "of the size & Bigness most proper & beneficial for the town;" and at an adjournment, two weeks later, it appointed Mr. Joseph Spur and Capt. Perez Cushing chief gunners, and ordered each to see that his piece was "fit for action as soon as may be." Affairs were rapidly coming to some crisis. Governor Gage had suspended the meeting of the General Court, which he had called at Salem for October 5. But ninety members met, and with John Hancock as President, adjourned to Cambridge. Here they formed a plan for the defense of the Colony, and directed a general enlistment of 12,000 men to be ready at a minute's notice for action. Hence the two cannon for self-protection, the minute-men enlisted by town vote, the commission of Jabez Fisher as delegate to a Provincial Congress at Concord on the second Tuesday of October, and the "increase of the town stock to such a degree with powder, Ball & shot as the gunners & Captains of each parish shall think proper." The town also adopted the advice of the Provincial Congress, and at a special meeting November 22, ordered the constables not to pay any town moneys to Harrison Gray, the royalist treasurer, but to Henry Gardner of Stow, for the use of the Province, "and the town will stand in the way of any harm to them."

At the meeting of Jan. 4, 1775, a Committee of Inspection of fifteen were ordered to see to the execution of the advice of the Continental and Provincial Congresses, and another of seven to secure two companies of minute-men to the number of one-fourth of the training band lists. These committees were: 1st, Elisha Ware, Jeremiah Day, John Whiting, Doct. Ebenezer Daggett, Lieut. Joseph Everett, Lieut. Samuel Fisher, Lieut. Joseph Fairbanks, John Hall, Esq., Samuel Cowell, Joseph Whiting, Jr., Doct. John Metcalf, Samuel Lethbridge, Joseph Woodward, Capt. Perez Cushing, and Dea. Jabez Fisher; 2d., Benjamin Hawes, Dea. Jabez Fisher, Joseph Woodward, Dea. Thomas Man, Asa Whiting, Lieut. Samuel Fisher, and Lemuel Kollock.

Under such men things move vigorously. The minute-men are equipped each "with a good fire-arm, bayonet, pouch, knapsack, and thirty rounds of cartridge by the twentieth day of February"—for they know not how soon Gage's mercenaries may be after their two cannon, and the two captains are directed to "train and exercise the men in military exercise one half day in every fortnight to the 1st of April next, and from and after that time to the 1st of May next two half days in every week, four hours in every half day."\* For this service the captains will receive 16d. per half day, each sub-altern officer 14d., four sergeants per each company 12d., four corporals, one drummer and one fifer, each 10d., and each private 9d.

But Concord and Lexington and Bunker Hill are demanding *more* than minute-men, trainings, and letters of committees of correspondence. Though our half of the committee of eleven be such men as Hezekiah Fisher, Joseph Hawes, Capt. Asa Fairbanks, Capt. Perez Cushing, and Joseph Whiting, yet the country wants men in the field. The town, therefore, springs promptly to the call for fifteen battalions offered by Massachusetts; and when volunteers lag, it orders, 8th July, 1776, the two companies to draft "whom they think

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\* For lists of Franklin's minute-men see military chapter in Addenda.

most Equal and Just to do a turn or half turn, reference being had to what they formerly had done," who shall go, find a substitute, or pay £8 per turn to the officers to procure one. In the spring of 1777, as the conflict deepens into a war, 40s. per month, after the first year, are offered to three years' men; or, if they prefer, £20 at once, in addition to the Continental and State bounties.

But the patriots had eyes to look sharply after home enemies as well as foreign; and at the suggestion of the State Assembly they choose, May 26, 1777, Mr. Joseph Hawes to look after and report all tories to the proper court. The soldiers' families are not forgotten, and a committee is chosen, September 3, to see that they are "supplied with the necessities of life at a stipulated price, at the town's cost."

The last vote of the whole town, previous to the incorporation of Franklin, touching the war, was on Feb. 16, 1778, and is the acceptance of a committee's report that the full quota of the town, "being the full seventh part of the male inhabitants of this town," has been secured by the enlistment of five men at £60 for each man.

With this clean record for liberty, the town of Franklin starts on its independent career.

Our records as a new town open with a copy of the act of incorporation and the order for a meeting to organize, issued by Jabez Fisher, justice of the peace, and addressed to Samuel Lethbridge "one of the principal inhabitants." That first meeting is held on Monday, March 23, 1778, at 9 o'clock, A.M., and chooses its town officers and its committee of correspondence—Capt. John Boyd, Dea. Daniel Thurston, Lieut. Ebenezer Dean, Capt. Thomas Bacon, Joseph Guild, the leading patriots of the town—and then adjourns one month to look into and make up their minds upon the new State constitution. In no whit in any subsequent meetings was the town derelict to any call for aid from the State or the struggling nation.

Of the burdens of that time we have little conception. We have been restive under the expenses of the late rebellion

and the depreciation of our currency, and some resist resumption when it involves a fall of only one-quarter of one per cent. But in July, 1781, the ratio of paper to silver was as one to forty: and in September, as one to one hundred and fifty. In February, 1782, the town paid £400 for ten shirts to Dea. Joseph Whiting: who, of course, would not overcharge. In this same year of '82, the town expenses amounted to £100,765 1s. 6d., in which the collector had unwittingly taken £51 counterfeit—relatively to the value of the rest, a very small offense! No wonder the town voted, March, 1784, that "the old Continental money and the new emission money in the town treasury shall go into a ministerial fund forever." It was a grim joke upon a paper currency, and explains, perhaps, why you cannot now find that fund.

But the fathers endured this bitter depreciation as the home part of the price of liberty. They also readily adopted the scale of prices recommended by the Concord Convention of 1779—to keep down exorbitant charges—and chose a committee to see to it, and they voted to publish in the Boston papers the names of all non-conformists to the prices. They voted also, that "the town will have no commercial dealings with such." It furnishes its quota of beef for the army—33,908 lbs. in eighteen months—and supplies the men sent to suppress the Shays Rebellion of 1786.

There is a flash of fire in some of their resolutions of that day whose heat still lingers in their words—as when, in 1779, while the money credit of the government was rapidly falling, this town recommended by vote to all who had money to loan to lend it to the Continental and State treasuries, and "avoid lending to monopolizers, Jobbers, Harpies, Forestallers, sharpers and Tories, with as much caution as they avoid a pestilence." We look on such a record of our town with high satisfaction.

The record of its individual citizens is no less commendable, as will appear in the military history. But we must leave the camp to look again at the affairs at home.

It is no dubious proof of the pluck of our fathers that, ere the smoke of the Revolutionary War had hardly rolled away, they set about building a new meeting-house. The old house had stood over forty years, has become ragged with use, and strait for the increasing population. But what is the wisest to do, is a question decided first this way and then that. One point, however, must be settled — whether the center of the town may not have shifted with the independence of the country and the growth of its inhabitants. Two surveyors and three chainmen are, therefore, (in January, 1784,) set upon this old problem ; who find, after many days and at a cost of £26 3s. 4d. (of which £1 12s. 11d. are for "Lickquer"), this perplexing center of Franklin to be "N. W. 71°, forty-seven rods from the center of the west door of the meeting-house where it now stands ;" which lands it not far from the same Morse's mud pond as fifty years before. A committee is, therefore, sent out to perambulate that region and report what they shall find in its vicinity. They negotiate successfully with Nathaniel and John Adams for the present Common and its approaches. Another committee of thirteen present plans for a new meeting-house, all of which is accepted in December, 1787, and the meeting-house which arose out of so many votes and counter votes was completed by July, 1788, at a final cost of £1,054 9s. 2d. 1qr. That house served its purpose for over fifty years, until, in 1840, it suffered a removal and a transformation. The last service held in it was on Monday, Sept. 28, 1840 ; it being the funeral of the pastor, Dr. Emmons, who was ordained in this town sixty-seven years before. The next day after the carpenters began their work of alterations. That transformation was before the day of photographs, so that no picture remains of *our* old meeting-house, save the fading remembrance which lingers in the memory of a few of us boys and girls of 1840. I have attempted to reproduce its picture as I recollect it, which the reader will find further on.

The house was sixty feet by forty-two, with a porch at each end fourteen feet square. It had fifty-nine pews on the floor

and twenty-one in the gallery, besides the singers' and boys' seats. The present Catholic church is the old house frame unaltered in size.

But what picture can produce its interior on some pleasant Sunday morning in June! Its high box pulpit and impending sounding board, hung by a single iron rod, an inch square; the two pegs on each side of the pulpit window, on one of which sometimes hangs the blue-black cloak, and on the other always the three-cornered clerical hat; by no means omitting the short, lithe preacher in the pulpit, with clear sharp eye, bald shining head, and small penetrating voice, and manuscript gesture. The square pews, too, seated on four sides, with a drop seat across the narrow door, and the straight cushioned chair in the center for the grandmother, filled, every one, with sedate faces, over which white hairs unusually predominate; and the long seats hemming the galleries, piled with hats against the two aisles, which a puff of wind from the porch entries sometimes sends down scattering upon the heads below. The singers' seats, filling the front gallery opposite the pulpit, in which nothing bigger than a pitch-pipe for years dared to utter a note; and the boys' seats in the southwest elbow of the gallery, each boy with one eye on the tithing-man in the opposite corner, while the other eye wanders or sleeps, and both ears enviously open to the neighing of the horses in the sheds and the twitter of the birds in the Lombardy poplars near by!

But the spirit of modern reform in 1840 demolished every vestige of that picture and carried off even the frame of the building to a new foundation. As a result of that demolition, the top of the old sounding-board lighted upon a well-house in Ashland, the breastwork of the old pulpit landed in the lecture-room of the Chicago Theological Seminary, and if you would once again listen to the sound of the same old bell which called your grandfathers and grandmothers to meetings on Sunday and lecture-days, and tolled their departure to the grave, you can hear it still — or could — ringing out as clearly

as ever in the Congregational steeple in Paxton, and reputed as the most musical bell in Worcester county.

But before we leave the old meeting-house, we must give one word to the Common in front of it. It was, when bought of the Adamses, covered with pitch-pines. While the meeting-house was being built, in 1788, Samuel Lethbridge offered to clear it up and subdue it within five years, for one penny a poll of the parish and time to raise four crops upon it and dispose of the stones as he pleased. A different bargain, however, was made with him for this work, for in 1793 he received £5 14s. 3½d. for subduing the Common. But the conquest was so far incomplete that in 1797 another bill of \$92.15 was paid for blasting powder, plowing, hay seed, victuals, and drink, from which deduct \$31.24 credit for twenty bushels of buckwheat, hay, and stones, and you have \$60.91 expended in completing the victory over Nature.

The platoons of Lombardy poplars which stood guard so erect and slim on three sides of the Common, and which furnished us boys with whistles on election days, were planted by vote of the town 6th April, 1801, by William Adams "at his discretion." \*

No town has a larger or finer plat of public territory for adornment, and in no town would a public park—tastefully set with walks, trees, and shrubbery, as this might be—add more to the beauty of its location. The local society for its improvement deserves, as I presume it will have, the cordial and visible co-operation of the whole town. Our Common should become a museum of every species of tree indigenous to the hills and valleys of this township,—where the young can study the characteristics of the forest while they talk of the century to come, and of the homes which they hope to build in the hereafter.

But my hour is over, and a score of perhaps more interesting topics must be relegated to the printed history in process of immediate preparation.

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\* See its further history in the Addenda.

The uprise of other churches and religious societies in this once single precinct—of which there now are at least six in vigorous operation ; the industrial enterprises—from the saw-mill on Mine brook, laid out in 1698, now the site of one of the Rays' numerous felting mills : the humble straw beginnings of Major Thayer, in 1800, to the present varied and extensive manufactories of the town ; the names and deeds of the veterans of the Revolution, and of the no less prompt volunteers to suppress the rebellion of 1861 ; the schools, and especially the honorable list of college graduates, the professional men and eminent citizens, native or resident—not forgetting the distinguished women, not a few—who have marked their day here or elsewhere ; of whom, as of Prof. Alexander M. Fisher of Yale, Judge Theron Metcalf, and Hon. Horace Mann, this town may well be proud, as her own native born—not forgetting the old Academy of 1835-40, whose memory shines yet as a bright morning in at least one soul ; these and other kindred themes must wait their opportunity. And not less the hundred and one other apparently little things which, nevertheless, give foliage and fragrance to history, as amongst the really developing forces of society.

I have simply culled a few of the taller stalks from the harvest-field of a hundred years, to make a bouquet for your centennial table to-day. It is a specimen only out of the years from which others might have gathered a much richer handful. But to me the culling has been among familiar acres, and the work has been a labor of love. As such, I beg to lay it before you to-day, with the hope that you will excuse the omission of your favorite flowers, and accept it as my offering to the old town which has always rendered me far more honor than I feel myself to be worthy of.

May the patriotism, the steadfast integrity, the intelligence, and the harmony which beautify the history of the past century of this town, shine on clearer and purer into the coming centuries, as far and as long as the name of FRANKLIN, MASS., can be read !



# ADDENDA.



## ADDENDA.

THE many matters of topography, civil, ecclesiastical, educational, industrial, and military history, which could not properly have mention in the public address — valuable documents, statistics, etc., are here contained in some order of arrangement under their appropriate heads.

### 1. TOPOGRAPHY.

The town of Franklin, whose general history is given in the preceding address, lies in the southwestern part of Norfolk county, Mass., and is southwesterly from Boston twenty-seven and one-quarter miles by the New York and New England Railroad. It contained within its original limits, as measured by the survey of 1832, 17,602½ acres, or 27.6 square miles. In 1870 the northeastern portion of the town was set off to the new town of Norfolk, formerly North Wrentham. This area included about 1,653 acres, leaving some 15,949 acres as the present extent of Franklin. It has the rolling, hilly surface which belongs to the Syenitic formation of eastern Massachusetts, and affords many beautiful views. From some of its elevated highways the Blue hills of Milton are visible, and from others can be seen Mount Wachusett in Princeton. It is one of the highest towns in the county, its central depot being on the summit of the New York and New England Railroad, and is one of the most healthful towns in the Commonwealth. It has several ponds — Beaver, Uneas, Popolatic, and Kingsbury's being the largest — whose overflow ultimately reaches the Charles river and Massachusetts bay, through Mine brook, and Stop, or Mill, river.

The elevation of the town, the general beauty of its scenery, and its railroad facilities — to say nothing of its social advantages

— are rapidly attracting attention to it as a summer resort or a country home. The many other facts which constitute and determine its desirableness as a place of residence or of business, will find a place under their appropriate heads in this supplementary history.

### II. CIVIL HISTORY.

The main facts of our interior life are contained in the historical address. Upon the subsidence of the war for liberty, society rapidly assumed its normal state and began its normal development. Little has occurred in the history proper of the town demanding especial mention. The regular town meetings were held, at which the necessary officers were chosen, of whom a list is given at the end, and the necessary expenses of the town were provided for.

Being mostly a farming community, the population increased very slowly. At the date of incorporation it was less than 1,100. Its census, at the several dates computed, has been—in 1790, 1,101; in 1800, 1,255; in 1810, 1,398; in 1820, 1,630; in 1830, 1,662; in 1840, 1,717; in 1850, 1,818; in 1855, 2,044; in 1860, 2,172; in 1865, 2,510; in 1870, 2,512; and in 1875, 2,983.

As the boundaries of the parish were territorially coincident with those of the town, the interests of the two were substantially one, and both interests were often acted upon in the same meeting. Hence the records do not discriminate between doings strictly civil and properly ecclesiastical. But by a statute of 1803, it was declared that such transaction of parochial business in open town meeting vitiated the proceedings, and a committee was chosen at the March meeting of 1804 to petition the General Court to ratify all past acts of town and parish, and to incorporate the latter as “the First Congregational parish in the town of Franklin.” Up to this date, therefore, are selected such acts from either precinct or town records as have interest for preservation and have not been already quoted in the general history.

The first warrant for organizing the precinct was issued by Jonathan Ware, justice of the peace, to Robert Pond, Daniel Hawes, David Jones, Daniel Thurston, and John Adams, “to meet at the house the inhabitants of sd precinct usually meet in for public worship,” Monday, 16th of January, at 10 o’clock, 1738. Meas-





ures were immediately taken for selecting a site and erecting a meeting-house, and for procuring a minister. The church, being present, acted jointly with the precinct in these ecclesiastical matters. The salary proposed was six score pounds, old tenor, to rise and fall with the value of money, and a settlement of £200; or, if preferred, £60 and the two parcels of land, containing sixty acres, granted by Wrentham at a proprietors' meeting 18th April, 1721, "whenever they be legally set off." Another £100 was, in July, added to buy woodland for the ministerial fires. The deed of an acre of land from Thomas Man for a meeting-house lot was accepted 11th September, 1739, and put for safe keeping into the care of Simon Sloeum.

On account of the high price of provisions, the precinct voted, 22d December, 1742, a contribution, to be taken on the last Sabbath of each month for four months, for the relief of the minister.

In 1762, when religious differences began to make votes important, the right of franchise was by vote limited "to such as have a freehold in house and land lying within the precinct." The same differences occasioned frequent and sometimes long meetings; and it was ordered, 14th March, 1763, to put upon "the aere" a white pine stick for a trough and painted, probably for the use of horses who had no interest in awaiting the long discussions of parish affairs. It was somewhat of a trough, costing 44s. How it was filled with water no record reveals. Perhaps the sexton, who had 15s. for sweeping the meeting-house and "taking care of the chosen" (things), needed no instructions.

For many years discussions and perambulations of town boundaries and laying out roads constituted the chief business of the town meetings. But the location of roads by marked trees, corners of farms, etc., renders their present description useless. Guide-posts are not mentioned until 1795, March 23, when the selectmen are directed to erect them according to law. The records show that all minor matters of town thrift were properly looked after.

### III. BURYING-GROUNDS.

Two had been provided at the beginning of the settlement by grants of land from the proprietors; one for the convenience of the settlers around Stop river, and another for those who migrated from

Wrentham. These yards appear to have lain open and uncared for until 1768, when the precinct appointed a committee for each burial place, to clear up and fence them with good stone walls. In 1793, committees are appointed to again clear them, repair the fences, appoint sextons, and fix the fees for interment. In 1808, the south (central) burying-ground was enlarged by an addition of ninety-eight rods, bought of Simeon Partridge and an enclosing two-rail fence with sawed posts was ordered. These same cemeteries, with subsequent enlargements, are now in use, and the children are laid where

“The forefathers of the hamlet slept.”

A hearse was purchased by the town in May, 1803, and rules were adopted regulating its use. This black and somber vehicle was used until the purchase of a new one by the town in April, 1837, which latter was supplanted by another in 1853. The taste and requirements of the community led, in 1860, to the formation of the Franklin Cemetery Association, which purchased and laid out several acres on the west side and adjoining the Central burying-ground. The town added six acres to its own yard, and the two cemeteries are now practically one. In 1867, Saul B. Scott gave land for an enlargement of the City Mills Cemetery. In 1864, J. L. Fitzpatrick and eleven others organized and secured a burial-ground called the Catholic Cemetery, of which the town approved by vote, November 8.

It seems a proper place here to give a few facts about the

#### EMMONS MONUMENT.

While W. M. Thayer was a member of Brown University, Dr. Wayland, the President, suggested to him in a private conversation, that Dr. Emmons deserved a more public monument than the village cemetery could afford, and that his many friends out of town were anxious to express in some permanent form their appreciation of his valuable labors for truth. The idea received a cordial response from the people of Franklin, and steps taken to realize it in stone.

A meeting was called and the Emmons Monument Association was ultimately organized, 5th March, 1844. The constitution, adopted 23d March, defined its sole object to be to erect a suit-

ble monument to the memory of Nathanael Emmons, D. D., and that it shall be “erected on or near the spot where the old meeting-house stood — that spot, hallowed by his faithful labors of more than half a century, and that house where his voice was heard at its dedication, and in which the last services performed were his funeral solemnities.” This article is made unalterable, except by unanimous vote of the Association. To this constitution twenty-seven names of citizens were attached. In accordance with its provisions, a committee of three was chosen to select the precise site for a monument, and other committees necessary to secure funds, etc. The first committee, Rev. Drs. Wayland of Providence, Codman of Dorchester, and Burgess of Dedham, after viewing the available locations, reported that the “monument be erected on the public ground in front of the church, if this can be permanently secured for the public, and the ground be properly graded, ornamented and enclosed. The reasons for this preference over the burying-ground are, that there is no room for such a monument in the latter place, and that, inasmuch as this is not strictly a personal memorial, but rather a public testimonial of the esteem in which his life-work and labors were held by his townsmen and friends, the most central situation and the most frequented, seems to us the most appropriate place.”

The report was adopted and subscriptions immediately opened. Responses came from even distant towns, whose names there is not room to give; and June 17, 1846, a granite monument was erected with public services, near the center of the Common, across which the venerated pastor had traveled to and fro for over half a century. A large company gathered in the church, where an address was given by Rev. M. Blake, and then adjourned to the Common in front, where the dedicatory address was made by Rev. T. D. Southworth, then pastor of the church.

This monument remained a central and often visited object, until a new and inexplicable impulse moved it into the new part of the cemetery and out of public sight; contrary to the unalterable provision of the society which located and erected it.

#### IV. THE COMMON

was purchased of Nathaniel and John Adams in 1787. Unlike most towns, the proprietors of this town seem to have donated no

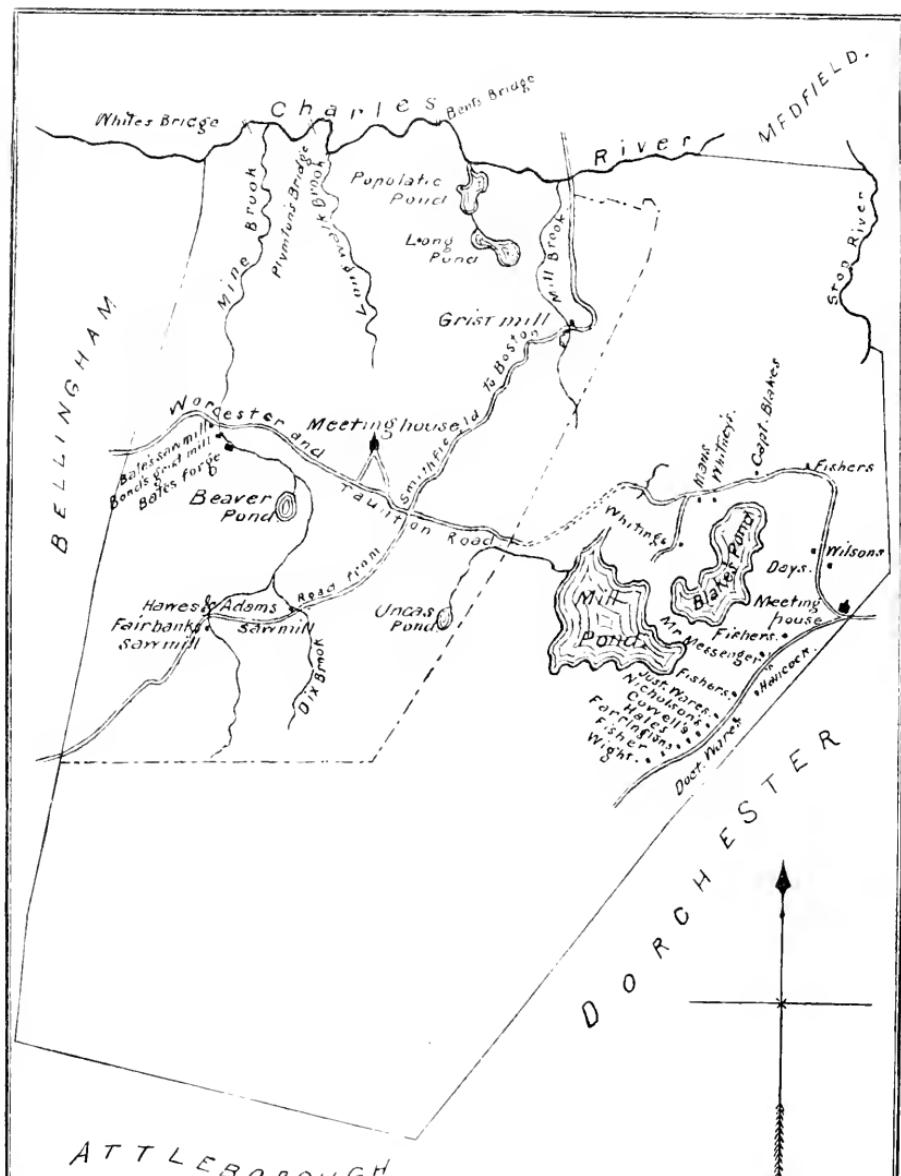
tract of land for a Common or training field. When the first meeting-house became antiquated and contracted, the question of a new sanctuary raised also that of a larger and better site than "the acre" given by Thomas Man. As soon, therefore, as a new house was decided upon, a committee was chosen 3d December, 1787, to negotiate with John Adams for the purchase of "the 34-rod spot." On the 17th following they reported:—

We have agreed with Mr. John Adams for the wedge of land lying between the way from the meeting-house leading to the Rev. Nathanael Emmons and the way from the said meeting-house to Ens. John Adams, being nine acres, at £1 10s. per acre: also, 38 rod of land west of said way at the same rate; also  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres in the hollow south of the old meeting-house at £3. And of Nathaniel Adams 140 rods of land east of the way from said meeting-house leading to Mr. Emmons, at the rate of £1 10s. per acre. Also a road three rods wide through his improved land, beginning at the road from John Adams, Jr., to go a straight course between his house and well to the land above mentioned. For which he is to receive as a satisfaction £8 in money and the acre of land whereon the meeting-house now stands, with the road that is now wanted, in by his house, to said acre.

The bargain was sanctioned, and in December, 1789, the town voted to buy the piece of land north of the new meeting-house, once bought of Nathaniel Adams by John Richardson, to make the Common more convenient, at 6d. per rod, containing  $59\frac{1}{2}$  rods. This addition was balanced by the sale to Nathaniel Adams of a small piece of shrub land lying on a side-hill south of the old meeting-house. In October, 1790, the plan of the Common thus constructed was accepted, and certain old roads now useless were discontinued. A new road was opened from Abijah Thurston's through the land of John Adams to the new meeting-house, and Adams was directed to "clear up the part of his land west of the road leading from his house to the meeting-house for the safety of said house."

In subsequent years the ownership of the Common was a matter of frequent discussion between town and parish. But so far as appears, all after improvements upon it were made by private subscriptions; and the fact of a movement to have the town purchase the Common of the parish, indicates decidedly to what conclusion the town arrived. But the movement failed of a vote,





## Wrentham and Franklin.

Reproduced on a uniform scale of 720 rods per inch  
from the old maps of Wrentham (1735) and Franklin  
(1795). Roads shown by dotted lines have been  
added to the map.

P. M. Blaauw, Del.

when a committee of the town recommended its purchase for \$3,000. The improvement of the Common, by planting shade trees, laying out walks, etc., is in the hands of a voluntary association at the present time.

#### V. MAPS OF THE TOWN.

The earliest known map of the territory of Franklin is in the town office of Wrentham. It is entitled, "A Plan of the Town of Wrentham. Shewing the Figure and Bounds thereof. Particularly of the Westerly Bound and Marks the Seitung of the Ponds, first House Lotts shewn by Just<sup>t</sup>. Ware, Eben<sup>r</sup> Fisher and others. — — — — May 1735 pr Sam<sup>l</sup> Brooks Surv<sup>r</sup>."

This map contains inside its boundaries only the two ponds, two or three short streets and the location and names of the first settlers. The outline of the West Precinct is dotted within it, evidently at a later date, and is almost exactly coincident with the present boundaries of Franklin.

An exact but reduced fac-simile of this ancient map and its contents is given in the accompanying drawing. The original is on a scale of forty chains to the inch.

A map of more interest to us is in the archives of the State House at Boston. It is from surveys made by Amos Hawes and Moses Fisher in September, October, and November, 1794, and is dated 27th May, 1795. The subscript says "There is about 17,602 acres in said town and that there are four Ponds which contain 20 acres and a half as laid down on the Plan. The roads in said Franklin are 58 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles in length and two rods in Breadth and contain 221 acres and one-quarter. Charles River on the North is about 5 rods in width and Mine Brook about one rod. The Centre of said Town is Thirty Miles from Boston the Capital of the State and Nineteen Miles from Dedham the Shire Town of the County." A reduced fac-simile of this map is inserted within the map of Wrentham and enclosed within the dotted lines.

In 1795, November 2, the selectmen were directed to "procure a plan of the town drawed on Parchment 100 rods to an inch, delineating the roads, Ponds, Streams, Houses, and Mills, specifying the distance of every house from the meeting-house in sd town, the distance of the Town from the Shiretown of the County, the

distance from the Capital of the state, the quantity of land in sd town, the surface of water contained in the ponds, and the quantity of land contained in the roads. Said plan to be the property of the town, to be lodged in the town clerk's office." No such map is now discoverable in the town office or elsewhere, unless that in the State House be the one intended.

In 1830, the State Legislature passed an act requiring the towns to make a survey of their territory. This town responded with a map, surveyed by John G. Hales, and lithographed, of which the town bought 200 copies at cost, to be resold at forty-two cents apiece. These went off slowly, and in 1837 the town voted to sell the balance at auction. Copies of this map of 1832 are still somewhat plenty. No survey of the town has since been made at the town's expense. The maps in the atlas of Norfolk county, of 1876, were issued by subscription of individuals, the town voting, 4th March, 1874, to buy a copy of the atlas at half price for the several public schools. Whether the schools now have a copy, the school committee can probably tell.

#### VI. VOTES ON CIVIL MATTERS.

The action of the town as a corporation is rather indicated by its general drift than by its specific votes. But its political sympathies are shown in its instructions at different times to its representatives—many of which are decisive enough—and in its majorities for State and National officers. Some votes on particular questions have, therefore, a value in the town's history.

In 1778, a new State constitution was submitted to the people. A special committee, of which the minister was chairman, was chosen to examine it, whose report and subsequent discussion led to a non-approval of the instrument. The Concord Convention of 17th July, 1779, was highly approved of "as calculated to answer the great purpose of appreciating our paper currency," and the prices of commodities as then recommended were adopted. The vote for the State constitution of 1780 was 105. The revised constitution of 1820 experienced a curious reception, decidedly indicative of the independent thinking and acting of the voters. The fourteen articles passed as follows:—

Article 1.....	20 yeas,	126 nays.	Article 8.....	133 yeas,	15 nays.
Article 2.....	0 yeas,	146 nays.	Article 9.....	91 yeas,	6 nays.
Article 3.....	136 yeas,	7 nays.	Article 10.....	1 yea,	120 nays.
Article 4.....	126 yeas,	21 nays.	Article 11.....	100 yeas,	5 nays.
Article 5.....	71 yeas,	67 nays.	Article 12.....	1 yea,	97 nays.
Article 6.....	2 yeas,	138 nays.	Article 13.....	104 yeas,	0 nays.
Article 7.....	128 yeas,	6 nays.	Article 14.....	8 yeas,	101 nays.

The amendments of 1833, 1836, and 1840 were passed almost without opposition. Subsequent votes of the town on later amendments indicate the same independent and intelligent judgment. The revised constitution of 1853 was rejected on three of its eight general divisions.

#### VII. THE PUBLIC POOR.

At the incorporation of the town there were only five paupers in the whole area of Wrentham, two of whom fell to Franklin, and the thrift of the people was such that for many years no mention is made in the records of any need of public provision for the poor. In 1799, regulations were adopted by the town for their care. As the custom then was, they were put out to the lowest bidder; but the successful bidder must be approved by the selectmen and held strictly to furnish all comforts except clothes and medicine, which were supplied by the town, and to remove the poor elsewhere at his own expense, on any complaint approved by the selectmen. At this date there were only five to be so disposed of.

In 1835, the dwelling-house and farm were purchased of Mr. Alphens Adams, for an almshouse, at a cost of \$3,000. It contains 125 acres, a two-story dwelling-house, 40x32 feet, a barn 50x26 feet, and other smaller buildings. Since 1835, the number of its inmates has not at any time exceeded twelve.

In 1868 the almshouse was burned, and the following April the town voted to build another twenty rods farther east. This new building is now in use.

#### VIII. PUBLIC LIBRARY.

What is now regarded as a town necessity had hardly an existence outside of colleges a hundred years ago. Franklin was blessed with the donation of a library before it was ten years old, which became the foundation for its present respectable collection of books.

The tradition is current that Dr. Franklin gave a library instead of a bell as had been suggested to him, because he believed such a people must prefer *sense* to *sound*. But a diligent search has found no verification of this very probable, characteristic and appropriate remark. But there is a letter of value, the original of which is in the collections of the Maine Historical Society at Brunswick, and a copy of which the secretary, Prof. A. S. Packard, has kindly furnished: —

PASSY, April 13, 1785.

DEAR COUSIN: I received your letter of Decem<sup>r</sup> 16 relating to Jonas Hartwell. I had before written to our Minister at Madrid, Mr. Carmichael, requesting him to apply for the Release of that Man. Inclosed I send His answer, with Copies of other Papers relating to the Affair. The Simpleton will be discharged, perhaps after being a little whipt for his Folly, & that may not be amiss. We have here another New England man, Thayer, formerly a candidate for the Ministry, who converted himself lately at Rome, & is now preparing to return home, for the purpose of converting his Countrymen. Our ancestors from Catholics became first, Church of England men, & then, refined into Presbyterians. To change now from Presbyterianism to Popery, seems to me refining backwards, from white sugar to brown.

I have written to Dr. Price of London, requesting him to make a choice of proper Books to commence a Library for the use of the Inhabitants of Franklin. They will be sent directly from thence.      \*      \*      \*      Your affectionate uncle,

B. FRANKLIN.

JONA. WILLIAMS, Esq.

This Dr. Price was Rev. Richard Price, a close friend of Dr. Franklin's, who published several strong pamphlets in advocacy of the American cause of liberty, and whom our Congress invited to become a citizen and aid in the financial affairs of the government, an invitation which he politely declined.

It is interesting to study his idea of a proper library for a young Massachusetts town; and a copy of the original catalogue (printed 1786) is given as a guide thereto: —

Clark's Works, 4 vols., folio.  
Hoadley's Works, 3 vols., folio.  
Barrows' Works, 2 vols., folio.  
Ridgeley's Works, 2 vols., folio.  
Locke's Works, 4 vols., octavo.  
Sydney's Works, 1 vol., octavo.

Montesquien's Spirit of Laws, 2 vols.  
Blackstone's Commentaries, 4 vols.  
Watson's Tracts, 6 vols.  
Newton on the Prophesies, 3 vols.  
Law on Religion, 1 vol.  
Priestley's Institutes, 2 vols.

Priestley's *Corruptions*, 2 vols.  
 Price and Priestley, 1 vol.  
 Lyndsey's *Apology and Sequel*, 2 vols.  
 Abernethy's *Sermons*, 2 vols.  
 Dugchal's *Sermons*, 3 vols.  
 Price's *Morals*, 1 vol.  
 Price on *Providence*, 1 vol.  
 Price on *Liberty*, 1 vol.  
 Price on the *Christian Scheme*, 1 vol.  
 Price's *Sermons*, 1 vol.  
 Needham's *Free State*, 1 vol.  
 West and Littleton on the *Resurrection*, 1 vol.  
 Stennet's *Sermons*, 2 vols.  
 Addison's *Evidences*, 1 vol.  
 Gordon's *Tacitus*, 5 vols.  
 Backus' *History*, 1 vol.  
 Lardner on the *Logus*, 1 vol., 8vo.  
 Watts' *Orthodoxy and Charity*, 1 vol.  
 Brainerd's *Life*, 1 vol.  
 Bellamy's *True Religion*, 1 vol.  
 Doddridge's *Life*, 1 vol.  
 Bellamy's *Permission of Sin*, 1 vol.  
 Fordyce's *Sermons*, 1 vol.  
 Hemminway against Hopkins, 1 vol.  
 Hopkins on *Holiness*, 1 vol.  
 Life of Cromwell, 1 vol.  
 Fulfilling the *Scriptures*, 1 vol.  
 Watts on the *Passions*, 1 vol.  
 Watts' *Logic*, 1 vol.  
 Edwards on *Religion*, 1 vol.  
 Dickinson on the *Five Points*, 1 vol.  
 Christian *History*, 2 vols.  
 Prideaux's *Connections*, 4 vols.  
 Cooper on *Predestination*, 1 vol.  
 Cambridge *Platform*, 1 vol.  
 Stoddard's *Safety of Appearing*, 1 vol.  
 Burkett on *Personal Reformation*, 1 v.  
 Barnard's *Sermons*, 1 vol.  
 Shepard's *Sound Believer*, 1 vol.  
 History of the *Rebellion*, 1 vol.  
 Janeway's *Life*, 1 vol.  
 Hopkin's *System*, 2 vols.  
 American *Preacher*, 4 vols.  
 Emmons' *Sermons*, 1 vol.  
 Thomas' *Laws of Massachusetts*, 1 vol.  
 American *Constitutions*, 1 vol.  
 Young's *Night Thoughts*, 1 vol.  
 Pilgrim's *Progress*, 1 vol.  
 Ames' *Oration*, 1 vol.  
 Spectators, 8 vols.  
 Life of Baron Trenk, 1 vol.  
 Cheap *Repository*, 2 vols.  
 Moral *Repository*, 1 vol.  
 Fitch's *Poem*, 1 vol.  
 Erskine's *Sermons*, 1 vol.

A few of the smaller ones must have been added from this side the water. A private library of 125 volumes for the use of the shareholders was added to the Franklin gift soon afterwards. These books were equally substantial. Still, in the dearth of reading of that time, even a folio of sermons was not unattractive, as the present writer can testify.

The town had some difficulty in deciding by whom the Library might be used. At first it was limited to members of the parish. In November, 1788, the books were opened to the whole town. In June, 1789, Mr. Emmons is directed by the town to lend out the books "according to the directions in the letter accompanying said library." But that letter has disappeared. In 1790 they are opened "to the inhabitants of the town at large until the town shall order otherwise." And so the matter has remained unto the present day. The Congregational pastor has been the custodian, and sometimes for years uncalled upon to deliver a book out of the antiquated collection. A committee was chosen

in March, 1840, to look after the neglected donation, which they found stowed away in its venerable book-case in a barn. The ultimate result of this and another investigation in 1856, was the forming of a Library Association, to which the town by vote committed the care of the old Franklin and Social libraries. These are now together, and form a nucleus for annual additions, towards which the town appropriates "the dog money" and \$400 per annum.

From Libraries we pass naturally to

#### IX. PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Before this precinct was incorporated, in the winter of 1734-5, the first preacher sent amongst its few people was directed also to teach school for four months; and this arrangement was continued by the town of Wrentham, employing different persons, until the precinct assumed the management of its own affairs.

As early as June, 1685, Wrentham set apart a lot of twenty to twenty-five acres for the support of schools. In March, 1695, a school-house was voted, sixteen feet square besides the chimney, and in the failure of a teacher, the selectmen kept the school one week each in turn. Among the earliest school teachers were Theodore Man and John Fales. In 1718 four separate schools are ordered, one at each cardinal point of the town. In 1728 the old Wrentham school-house of 1695 is sold at auction. Feb. 11, 1754, the school lands, which by successive grants had amounted to nearly fifty acres, were, by leave of the court, sold at auction, the twenty-five acres at Stop river being started at £90. In 1760, the lands between the two ponds (Blake's pond and the Mill pond, now Whiting's), which the Wrentham proprietors had donated to the town 30th January, 1744, on condition that they should be used for schools, were sold by order of the town for £158 15s. 8d., of which the west precinct were to have their share "as soon as set off into a town for the same use."

What became of the Franklin share of this money is not clear from the records. But in 1792, a claim to certain moneys in the Wrentham treasury was referred to an outside committee — Daniel Perry, John Stone, and Elisha May — who adjudged £33 4s. to the town, a good part of which was absorbed in the costs of getting it.

The first grant of money by the town for schools was £200, in May 20, 1778, under the following directions:—

Voted that the money granted, to be appropriated for the support of Schools in this town the year ensuing, be and hereby is ordered to be expended in the following manner, viz: the several School Districts in this town to have the same Bounds and Limits as was usual Before this town was Incorporated, unless in the opinion of the Selectmen some alteration are necessary, which is left to their discretion to make if they think proper; and that some time Before the Last day of June Next the Inhabitants of Each particular District shall give to the Selectmen the Number of Children Between the Age of four years and sixteen that live in each particular district, and the Selectmen are hereby directed to Divide the School money by the Polls taking the whole number of Children in the town as above Described and ascertain to Each District what Sum they have a Right to Expend, and the Inhabitants of Each District shall have Liberty to hire School Masters, or Mistress, or both, they being such as shall be approved by the Selectmen to keep school in their Particular District until their shair of the money is Expended. Provided the same be Accomplished Before the Last Day of June 1779.— and in case any District shall Neglect to Expend their part of the money by the time Perfitt without a sufficient Excuse to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen, the Remainder not Expended as aforesaid shall Remain in the Treasury for the use of such a school as the town shall afterward order.

One year later, May 19, 1779, the sum of £400 was granted for support of schools, with a similar vote as to mode of expending the same. In 1780 the grant was £800. These sums were in a currency known as the “old emission,” and of depreciated value. In 1781 the grant was £200, of new emission; but in 1782 the grant was reduced to £80.

The grants from year to year were about the same in amount until A. D. 1796, when the sum of \$320 was granted, which amount was gradually increased until A. D. 1802, when \$500 was granted. In 1814 \$600 was granted, and in 1823 it was raised to \$700. The grant for schools in 1839 was \$1,000; in 1855, \$1,600, and in 1862 the sum of \$1,750 was granted and apportioned to the several schools, in accordance with the recommendation of a special committee. In 1865 \$2,500 was granted, and in 1868 \$4,000 was the sum granted, and the town voted to establish a High School.

In 1873 the grant was raised to \$6,000, which amount has been continued to the present time.\*

These grants have had various methods of subdivision. From 1778 until 1812 it was divided according to the number of children between four and sixteen, excepting in 1792, 1795 to 1797, when the division was by families. In 1813, and mainly until the abolition of the district system, the distribution has been one-half by the number of families, and one-half by the number of children. In 1789 it was voted that any district neglecting to make return of the number of school children at a fixed time should forfeit its portion of the appropriation.

The employment of teachers had been for many years entrusted to the selectmen. Afterwards, the teachers must be approved by the selectmen, but chosen by the districts. Next, the town appointed prudential committees to secure teachers. In 1827 the several districts were authorized to choose their own committees, and this became an annual vote, so far as appears, while the districts continued.

At first the clergyman annually visited and catechised the schools, and it was a great day when the catechising came. It usually came in May. Notice was given on the Sabbath of the intended place and hour, and promptly gathered the freshly-washed and brushed scholars with their new summer apparel. The moment the well-known chaise appeared the noise of fifty children ceased, and each glided into a seat in silent, waiting expectation for the incoming of the minister. Every scholar arose as he entered the room, and stood until he reached the desk. After a very short prayer they sat, and he began here or there as his eye chanced to fall, until every child had told his own and his parents' names, and had answered or failed to answer some question from the assembly's catechism. Some of the abashed ones' misquotations caused even the grave man in black to smile.

It has been told, for example, that a lad, very bashful by nature and unusually tall for his years, had timidly doubled himself upon a low seat. When called up in his turn he slowly rose and waited, blushing and abashed at his short name and awkward height. Quickly, as the Rev. Doctors' manner was, came the

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\* See Report of School Committee for 1877.

question, "Can you say the Lord's prayer?" "The — Lord's — Prayer," slowly stammered the confused youth, and gradually slid himself together again, like a telescope, back to his seat. It was a difficult moment for solemnity.

These annual catechisings continued far into the present century and nearly unto the end of the reverend pastor's ministry, and until a sharper definition of the public school and the school committee came into full official position. The first committee was chosen by the town in March, 1802. A list of the incumbents up to the present time is appended, with other town officers. The first report preserved in the town records dates March, 1810. Subsequently they are frequently copied by vote of the town. They generally and sometimes vigorously discuss the importance and requirements of popular education, and are not seldom accepted with a vote of thanks from the town.

The establishment of school boundaries and the location of school-houses has been determined by the wants of the children. At first, a central school had to supply all. Before the separation from Wrentham others had been established. In 1791 liberty was given to the overflow of any district to attend any school in town where the teacher could conveniently receive them. In January, 1795, a committee was instructed to report upon the needed number of school-houses, and where they should be located. In January, 1795, a committee was instructed to report upon the needed number of school-houses and where they should be located. In November following their report is received, recommending six districts and as many school-houses — namely, at River End, at Long Walk division, at Maj. Moses Knapp's division, "where it now is," at Capt. Asa Fairbanks', "not more than twenty rods from Mine Brook," at Dea. James Metcalf's division, and at the meeting-house "on the East side of the way from the meeting-house to Mr. Emmons', near the corner of Hezekiah Fisher's land." But in 1800 these divisions suffered a rearrangement more in accordance with their after boundaries, and their names were changed to geographical designations. In 1822 the River End district was divided, and other divisions occurred until the number of schools was increased to ten — the present number of mixed schools. The central school, however, is graded into four departments and six schools, with a total attendance the current

year of 314. The number of attending school children in town is 572.

The materials are not discoverable for any particular notice of the "red school-houses," which once illuminated the cross-roads of the town. Their places have been filled by far more convenient and sightly buildings, erected by the town after the abolition of the district system. But of the present buildings there is no need of mention.

The public schools, insufficient in length for the demands of the people, were often prolonged by private subscriptions; and many scholars annually resorted to Day's Academy, in Wrentham, for higher instruction, especially in the classics for a college course. A graduate occasionally taught an extra term in the autumn.

Requests from several persons encouraged the present writer to attempt a private school of a higher grade at his own charges, in the fall of 1835, after his graduation from Amherst College. The central district kindly offered the use of its school-house. The tuition was placed at twenty-five and thirty-three cents per week, and a High School was opened with fifty-six scholars, of whom fourteen came from other towns. With such encouragement the school continued for several years, and with a constantly increasing patronage, until its term rolls counted sometimes nearly a hundred names. Within the first year of its existence a large two-story building was erected by a stock company, with accommodations for a hundred pupils, recitation-rooms, a large hall for public examinations, apparatus, etc.

During the three years of the first principal's connection, this school counted on its roll the names of many scholars since well known and not a few renowned as educators and heads of important institutions of instruction, as well as lawyers, physicians and ministers. A review of its first three catalogues is now to the writer a frequent and pleasant exercise, and the occasional meeting of old scholars a delightful revival of some of the brightest days of his life.

The subsequent career of the old Franklin High School, under Bigelow, Baker and others is not particularly known to the writer. Upon its subsidence, the building was occupied as a store, and is now fitted for dwellings. But though its cupola and bell are gone, and its front pillars and recess have disappeared, a halo of kindly





memories will linger about it still, at the western foot of the Common, as long as the young eyes of 1835-40 can look upon its site.

#### A HIGH SCHOOL

was established by the town in April, 1868, and was opened to pupils on May 20, with twenty-two scholars, and Miss Mary A. Bryant as principal. Since the close of her service the line of principals has been Annie E. Patten, Thomas Curley, and Lucien I. Blake, the present occupant of the position.

The educational facilities of Franklin have been especially enlarged by the founding of

#### DEAN ACADEMY.

We condense from its annual catalogues. "At the annual session of the Massachusetts Universalist Convention, held in Worcester, Oct. 18-20, 1864, the subject of a State denominational school, which should be of the highest grade below that of colleges, was brought to the attention of the council by Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., President of Tuft's College. The council immediately appointed a committee with full discretionary powers, with Rev. A. St. John Chambrè, of Stoughton, as chairman.

This committee soon held a spirited public meeting in Boston. The parish in Stoughton offered \$25,000 and an eligible site. Oliver Dean, M. D., of Franklin, proposed to give a tract of eight or nine acres which he had bought of the former estate of Rev. N. Emmons, D. D., \$10,000 towards a building, and \$50,000 as a permanent fund. Dr. Dean's proposal was accepted, a charter obtained, trustees chosen, and a call for funds for building issued. The generous responses encouraged the trustees to secure plans for a seminary adequate to the apparent demands, and ground was broken in August, 1866. May 16, 1867, the cornerstone was laid with appropriate public ceremonies. The continual rise of prices of labor and material compelled to increased subscriptions, Dr. Dean's donations to the building arising to about \$75,000. The edifice was finished and dedicated to its uses May 28, 1868, with a dedicatory address by Rev. E. C. Bolles of Portland, Me. The total cost of the building, exclusive of furniture and gas apparatus, was about \$154,000. It was 220 feet front, the main center fifty feet by sixty deep, and two wings, each fifty-

eight feet by forty-four in depth, with still other wings projecting into the rear, and three stories high. The style was French Lombardie and altogether was a very appropriate and beautiful edifice.

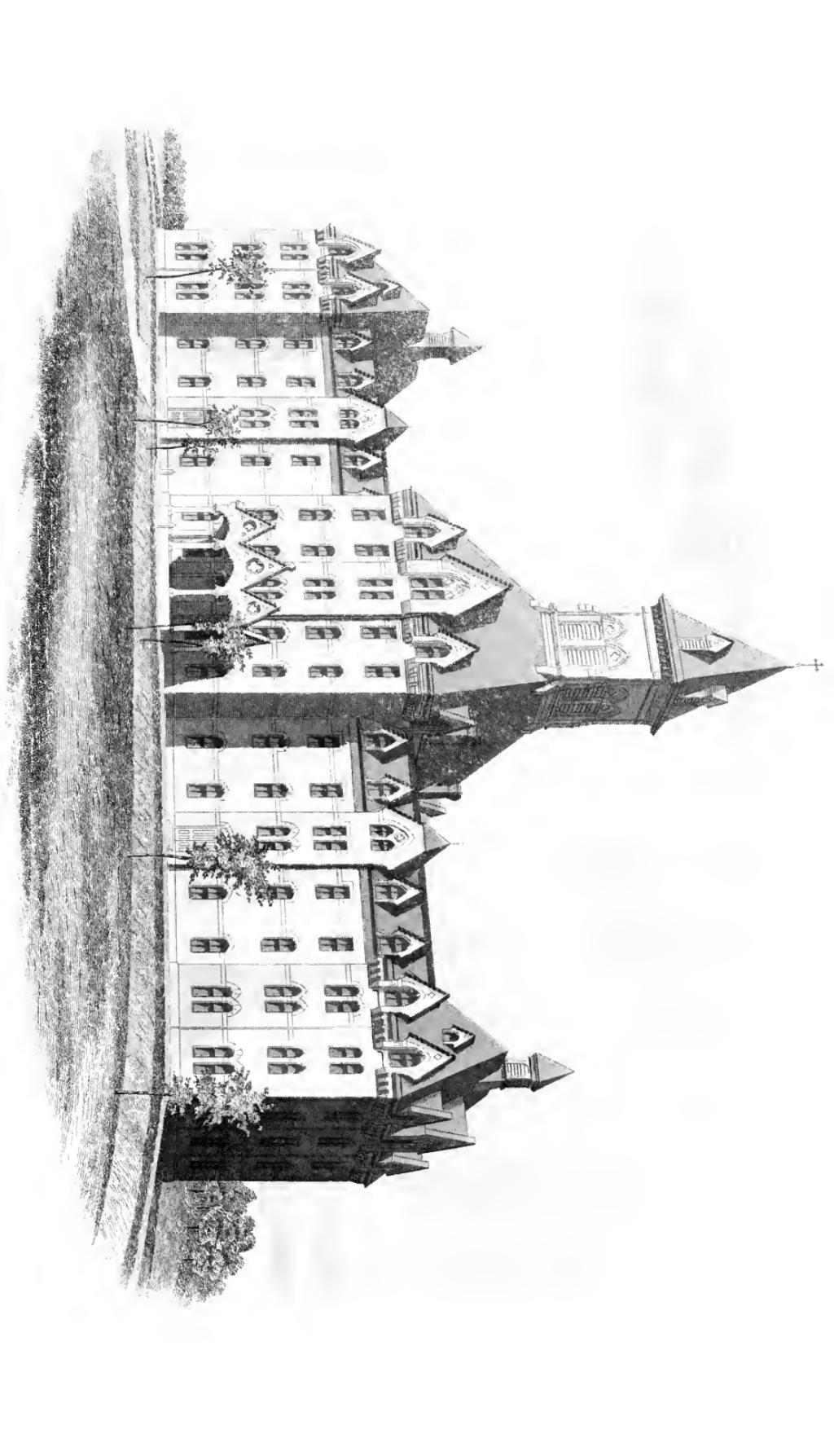
While the academy was being erected a school was begun, Oct. 1, 1866, in the vestry of the Universalist church, with forty-four pupils, under Mr. T. G. Senter as principal. The school was removed to the new edifice at the opening of the summer term of 1868.

But during the night of July 31, 1872, this magnificent building with nearly all its contents was destroyed by fire. The friends of the school, however, speedily rallied from this sudden and stunning blow and began as soon as possible to rebuild upon the former foundations. The school meanwhile was continued with encouraging prospects in the Franklin House, which had been purchased by the trustees and citizens of the town for this purpose.

It was with great labor and many anxieties that the trustees pushed forward the work in their care. Desirous of furnishing the best facilities for education, they incorporated every improvement into their new building, and with so much success that they were able to present it for public dedication on June 24, 1874, and for class graduation exercises—less than two years from the destruction of its predecessor. The school removed to it the next term—September, 1874.

The present building occupies substantially the same dimensions and differs externally very little from the previous one, except in architectural style, being Gothic. The internal arrangements are not surpassed by any other educational institution in the State; while its exterior brick walls, banded and corniced with sandstone, and rising to a fifth story in the center, with a lofty tower sixty feet high, add a feature to the beautiful scenery which attracts and holds the eye of every visitor with admiration of its chaste yet impressive proportions. A view is given on the opposite page.

Dean Academy continued open to both sexes until 1877, when a demand for a young ladies' school in the Universalist church decided the trustees to open the institution for young ladies only. Under this new departure it began the fall term of the present year, 1877-8, with about fifty pupils. There is not yet sufficient time to test the present policy. But the trustees say "the promise is that the school will be eminently successful in the





work it has undertaken. It will continue to be *first class* in every respect, and to furnish a thorough education."

Next to the school, as one of the educational agencies of a town, may come a brief notice of

#### X. THE POST-OFFICE.

This is furnished chiefly by Capt. H. C. Fisher, now of Haverhill.

There was no properly appointed post-office until about 1819. The few newspapers and occasional letters for the first century of the settlement came by chance neighborly hands from Wrentham, where they were left by the carriers between Providence and Boston. As late as 1812 they were brought from South Wrentham on Saturdays and left at Capt. Nathaniel Adams' store (after Davis Thayer's). Hermon C. Fisher, then about 15, was employed as carrier by several families. As there were but three mails per week between Boston and Providence, the weekly amount for Franklin was not a heavy horse-back load. But the interest in the events of the war of 1812 paid for the long weekly journey through Wrentham Center and Guinea, to the old tavern on the Boston and Providence road. About 1815, David Fisher, keeper of the only tavern then in Wrentham, was appointed postmaster, and the Franklin mail was brought from there; but North Franklin letters came from Captain Felt's office, recently opened in Medway Village. About 1819, Eli Richardson built the stone store at City Mills in Franklin and secured a post-office there. As there was some business rivalry between the Center and the City, of which Davis Thayer and Eli Richardson were the exponents respectively, the Center was not pleased that a march had been stolen upon them. True, Mr. Richardson engaged to bring all letters and papers which belonged to the Center to meeting in his sulky box every Sunday, and H. C. Fisher took the package from the carriage to Major Thayer's store for distribution; but the letters sometimes miscarried, the inventory charges did not agree, and after two uneasy years the Center moved in earnest for a post-office of its own. The result of a somewhat bitter conflict was the securing of an office, with Davis Thayer as postmaster, and David Metcalf as mail-carrier twice a week from the city to the Center. He came regularly with his pouch, but as Mr.

Richardson still kept the keys, nothing came of it. After a deal of negotiating with the Department, quiet and order finally obtained, and in 1822 the office became regularly established as "Franklin, D. Thayer, P. M." From that date the succession of postmasters has been Spencer Pratt, Theron C. Hills, David P. Baker, Cyrus B. Snow, Charles W. Stewart, D. P. Baker again, A. A. Russeque assistant, Smith Fisher, J. A. Woodward occupant since 1871. The office has been as movable as the incumbent, being held in any most convenient store at the Center.

The income at first did not exceed \$50 per quarter, of which the postmaster received about thirty per cent., but its business increased rapidly as soon as differences were composed. In 1864 a salary was affixed of \$480 per annum, in 1866 at \$540, and in 1868 at \$700. In 1869 the office became a money-order office, and in 1870 the salary raised to \$900, and in 1872 to \$1,000.

#### XI. ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

The early ecclesiastical history of Franklin has been mainly embodied in the preceding address. A still fuller sketch of it is contained in the Centennial Sermon of Rev. Elam Smalley, in 1838, which leaves very little to be added except some notice of the regularly settled pastors of the

##### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Rev. ELIAS HAVEN, the first minister, was a native of Framingham. He descended from Richard Haven of the West of England, who settled in Lynn in 1645, and had twelve children.

Moses, his youngest son, born in Lynn 20th May, 1667, married Mary Ballard, and had eight children. He moved to Framingham before 1705, and was deacon in 1717.

Joseph, his oldest son, born 8th February, 1689, married Martha Haven, and had eleven children. He moved to Hopkinton in 1724; was one of the founders of the church there and its deacon. He filled the highest offices in town.

Elias, the third son and child of Joseph, was born in Framingham, 16th April, 1714; graduated at Harvard 1733, and dismissed from the church in Hopkinton, 29th October, 1738, to become the pastor of the church in Franklin. He married Mary Messenger, oldest daughter of Rev. Henry Messenger of Wrentham (born

28th August, 1722) and had seven children. Rev. Mr. Messenger's family was a peculiarly ministerial household. His daughter Esther married Rev. Amariah Frost, first minister of Milford; Sarah married first Dr. Cornelius Kollock of Wrentham, and second Rev. Benjamin Caryl, first minister of Dover: while Elizabeth was the wife of Rev. Joseph Bean, her father's successor, and his son James was the first minister in Ashford, Ct.

Four only of Rev. Mr. Haven's seven children reached maturity. These were:—

2. Thomas, born 28th August, 1744, for whose history see biographical sketches.

3. Elias, born 11th November, 1745, married Elizabeth Bright of Dedham, and probably removed there.

6. William, born 20th June, 1751, of whom nothing more is known.

7. Mary, born May, 1753, and lived in Dedham.

Rev. Mr. Haven's ministry, continued through much weakness of body and frequent suspensions, was very successful in results. One hundred and seventy-one members were added to the church during his sixteen years, most of them during the great revival of 1741. But consumption early marked him for a victim, and the last five years of his life were broken by long intervals of inability to preach. The records of the church and the parish show the devotion of the people by their frequent sympathetic votes and cheerful continuance of his salary, while they supplied the pulpit at their own expense, and a grant of £26 to his family after his death. The town erected a stone over his grave in the central yard, on which they say:—

Who are desirous of giving  
And of perpetuating  
Their public Testimony  
To his faithful ministry and pious Life  
By which tho' dead he yet speaketh  
To his once beloved and grateful Flock.

Rev. CALEB BARNAM, or BARNUM, the second pastor, was of Danbury, Ct. His immigrant ancestor, Thomas Barnum, was first of Fairfield, then in Norwalk, and afterwards one of eight original settlers of Danbury; where Caleb was born 30th June, 1737, the son of Thomas and Deborah. He graduated at Princeton, N. J., 1757, and A. M. in 1768 at both Princeton and Harvard.

Mr. Barnum began his ministry in this town in troublous times, induced, maybe, by the six years' vacancy in the pastorate, and continued perhaps by the hymn-book war and known decisiveness of Franklin people. The minister, it must be admitted, was also prompt and positive in his opinions, and not therefore skillfully successful in adjusting the differences of others. Yet he carried with him the confidence and support of a large majority of the church, and it was with great reluctance and very slowly that they consented to his resignation. The records of the time seem to show that the differences were more between the precinct and the church than with the minister. He, as a central figure between them, received the attacks of both parties, and as usually results, he was demolished in their encounters. A communication from the precinct to the church, adopted 12th March, 1764, illustrates the above statement:—

We have had Yours of ye Twelve of February under consideration and have Left it to be more fully answered by Capt. Jn. Goldsbury, and others, a Committee Chosen at a Pro. meeting on ye 6 of February anno domini 1764. But Can by no means Concur with you in singing either Doct. Watts verson of the Psalms, or Tate & Brady's with the Hymns. But do still adhear to our vote of ye 21 of June, 1762, and Desire ye Church would Concur with us in Singing the Old Version of ye Psalms in ye Congregation; Leaving the church to thear Own Cheree to Sing What Version of Psalms they Please when they assemble by themselves for Divine Worship, but if the Church shall not think Proper to Concur with ye Precinct in Singing the Old Version of the Psalms, That you would proceed to Send out ye Letters missive to the churches Chosen to Set in Ecclesiastical Council to hear and advise us under our Difficulties and that the Precinct Clerk wate upon ye Rev. Mr. Barnam with a Coppy of this Vote and with a Coppy of the Votes of the Precinct Past at precinct meeting on the 6 of February 1764, Desiring they may be Laid before the Church as Soon as may be with Conveniency.

The council alluded to was convened 17th April, 1764, and its result accepted 7th May, and expense of council, £6. 11s. 2 d., paid by the precinct. That result says:—

We look upon that which the church acted in voting another version of the Psalms different from what the Christian assembly in this Parish from their original foundation had been in the public use of without their consulting the Congregation was unadvisedly done. Forasmuch as the whole of the religious society are

evidently interested therein. Notwithstanding we think the Prencet were very assuming in Pretending to settle sd controverted point by a Parish vote and demanding or requesting the church's concurrence, forasmuch as consistent with our congregational constitution it has always been considered as the church's right to go before in matters of divine worship, and in regard to many concurring circumstances attending the church's vote of introducing Dr. Watts' version we are of opinion that it is advisable that the congregation rather acquiesce in said vote and sing the version of Dr. Watts in part together with our New England version in part; which version said congregation have Lately assaid to Revive, and that, considering the uncomfortable and unhappy state which must attend the people in maintaining controversies of this kind, we advise the Rev. Pastor and church to condescend thereto for the Present, that ye may all have an opportunity, hoping withal in in due time you'll improve it that ye may all unite in one version.

The hymnal discord was accompanied by other troubles to the pastor. Some withdrew on suspicion of his unsoundness "on the doctrine of universal redemption and assurance of faith," and several left to attend Separatist meetings; but the majority of the church vindicated the pastor and rebuked the dissentients. Still, Mr. Barnum persisted in pressing his dismissal, until it was reluctantly granted. In his ministry of eight years, forty were added to the church by profession and eight by letter.

Mr. Barnum was installed over the first church in Taunton, 2d February, 1769. When the news of the fight at Lexington reached Taunton, he enthusiastically addressed his people upon the duties of the crisis, and himself entered the army of the patriots, 3d May, 1775, and was chaplain of the Twenty-fourth Regiment, Col. John Greaton, then near Boston, 10th February, 1776. He followed his regiment to New York and to Montreal. On his return he was taken sick at Ticonderoga and was discharged 24th July. But death arrested him at Pittsfield on the 23d of August, at the age of 39.

Mr. Barnum was a fully proportioned man of over six feet in height and of vigorous muscle, which, if tradition be reliable, he did not decline to use when occasion demanded; as when he once took down a blatant wrestler who had made himself obnoxious. A portrait preserved of him presents a very majestic and authoritative presence in his ample wig.

Mr. Barnum married 13th June, 1761, Priscilla, daughter of

Rev. Caleb Rice, of Sturbridge, and sister to Col. Nathan Rice, of Hingham, aid-de-camp to General Lincoln, in the Southern campaign. They had eight children:—

1. Caleb, born 11th April, 1762, and married Nancy Paine, of Thetford, Vt.

2. Priscilla, born 1st April, 1764, and married Capt. David Vickery, of Taunton.

3. Deborah, born 27th October, 1766, and married Thomas S. Bailies, of Dighton.

4. George, born 23d May, 1768, and married Sally Cutler, of Warren.

5. Mary, died young.

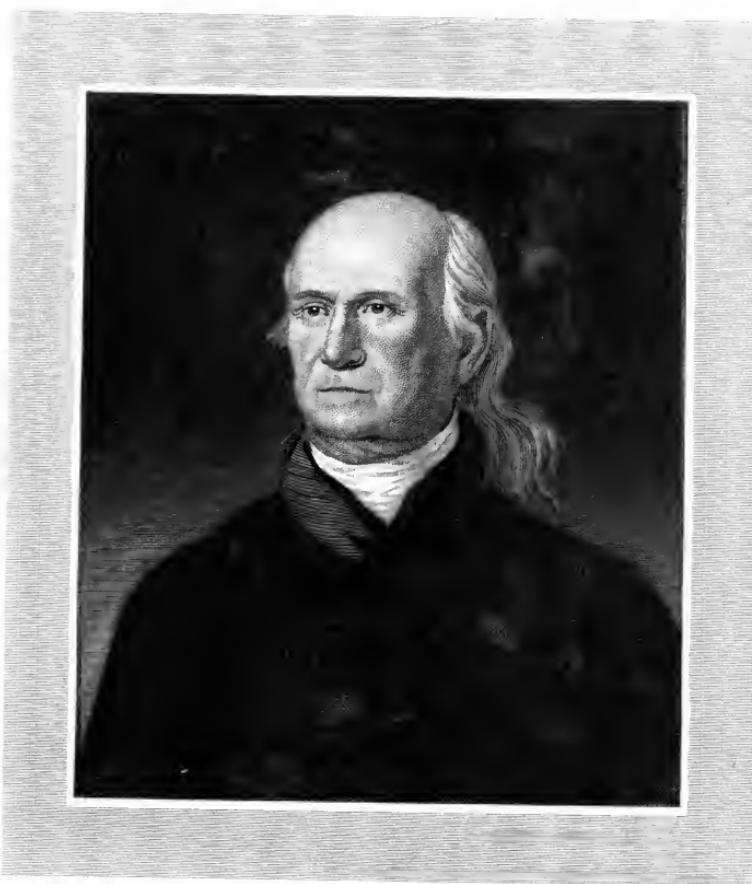
6. Thomas, born 30th October, 1772 and married Sally Abraham, of New York.

7. Anna, born 30th December, 1773, and married Rufus Child, of Woodstock, Ct.

8. Polly, born 11th October, 1775, and married Rev. Peter Nourse, of Ellsworth, Me.

Of the third minister, Rev. NATHANAEL EMMONS, D. D., a portrait is given as he was at about 60 years of age. The exhaustive memoir by Prof. E. A. Park, D. D., has left nothing for addition or correction. It is no dubious commendation of his character and ministry that his name is still a brightness in the memory of all the elder citizens of Franklin, and even mellowed into a sunnier radiance by the lapse of years. So strong was the regard to him personally that his namesakes are found in many a family and in many a town and State, while anecdotes of him and his pithy apothegms are still current — bright as new coin, and more valuable. We find him a member, and often the chairman, of important committees chosen by the town on matters of moral interest. Yet he was never a dictator, but carried the public mind by his clear and convincing logic. He sharpened the intellects of his people and made them alert, discriminating and clear-headed thinkers, having settled opinions of their own. He ruled, therefore, only by always moving in the line of their own intelligent convictions. They knew him to be simply following truth and they had to follow his guidance, because he justified every step of his way.

In one aspect, at least, Dr. Emmons has been and is sometimes



Nath<sup>l</sup> Emmons



still misrepresented. He was not curt, dogmatic, and repellent. He was not unsocial and austere to his people, nor a bugbear to the young. But he invited and received us cordially into his study, drew us out of our bashfulness, and always dismissed us with new thoughts and higher impulses. He was affable, genial, and enjoyed a joke as keenly as any of us. The young people of his day still remember his indescribable chuckle with which he followed his sallies of wit. He loved to test us with Socratic questions, and highly enjoyed our escapes from entanglements; and herein lay his power over our generation. He won our confidential regard and never wrenched it afterwards by the tension of any inconsistent demands. The writer hopes to be pardoned for adding so much in vindication of the aged pastor who stimulated him as well as so many others in the pursuit of education and whom some who never knew him have painted as distant, morose, and forbidding in manners. It is a slander on the man.

Dr. Emmons' active ministry continued about fifty-four years—from 21st April, 1773, to 28th May, 1827. He died 23d September, 1840, at nearly 96. He often said that he should never have ventured to settle over the Franklin church—so vigorously divided in feeling—if Mr. Niles had not just before him preached to that people his two sermons with such effect during his supply of the Franklin pulpit. One sermon was from the text, “I ask for what intent ye have sent for me?” wherein he described the objects for which some people wanted a minister, and the proper business of the ministry. The other sermon was on the text, “I hear that there are divisions among you,” in which their discords and their consequences were plainly and faithfully set forth.

Twice during his ministry, in 1781 and again in 1784, Dr. Emmons, discouraged with his apparently fruitless labors, asked a dismission, which his people unanimously declined to grant. An extensive and powerful revival followed before the latter year closed, from which about seventy were added to the church. It was the end of his discouragements. During his active life 308 were gathered into the church. His letter of resignation, after his fainting in the pulpit, is worthy, for its loving simplicity, of a place in this history:—

FRANKLIN, May 28, 1827.

*To the Members of the Church and to the Members of the Religious Society in this Place.*

BRETHREN & FRIENDS: I have sustained the Pastoral Relation to you for more than fifty years, which is a long ministerial life. The decays of nature and increasing infirmities of old age and my present feeble state of health convince me that it is my duty to retire from the field of labor which I am no longer able to occupy to my own satisfaction, nor to your benefit. I therefore take the liberty to inform you that I can no longer supply your pulpit and perform any ministerial labor among you; and at the same time that I renounce all claims upon you for any future ministerial support, relying intirely on your wisdom and goodness to grant or not to grant any gratuity to your aged servant during the residue of his life.

NATHANAEL EMMONS.

The parish responded with a grant of \$500 per annum.

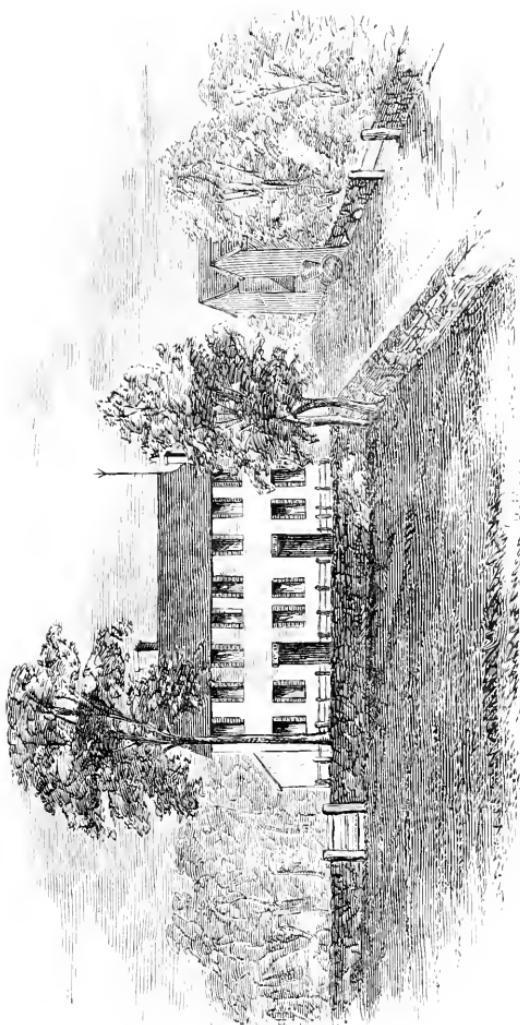
Dr. Emmons was descended from Samuel Emmons of Cambridge, and was the son of Dea. Samuel, Jr., and Ruth (Cone) Emmons of East Haddam, Ct. He was born 1st May, 1745, and graduated at Yale College 1767.

He married, first, Deliverance French of Braintree, 6th April, 1775. She died 22d June, 1778, and her two children in September. Second, Martha Williams, of Hadley, 4th November, 1779, by whom he had six children.

1. Martha, wife of Willard Gay, Esq., of Dedham.
2. Deliverance.
3. Sarah.
4. Mary, wife of Rev. Jacob Ide, D. D., of Medway, who is still living with her husband in a serene old age, and the mother of two sons in the ministry — Revs. Jacob, Jr., and Alexis W. Ide.
5. Williams, B. U., 1805. Lawyer in Augusta, Me., Senator and Judge of Probate.
6. Erastus. Major, aid-de-camp to General Crane; died young.

Mrs. Emmons died 2d August, 1829, and he married, third, Mrs. Abigail M. Mills of Sutton, 18th September, 1831, who lived to be over 90.

A view of the home of Dr. Emmons in Franklin is inserted here, as perhaps the most suitable. It stood on the north corner of Main and Emmons streets. The old button-wood tree near his study windows is still flourishing, as well as two apple trees on its western side; but the house itself was removed some years



RESIDENCE OF DR. EMMONS.

The two windows at the left hand, on the first story, belonged to his study. "I have saved months of time," he said, "by having my study on the lower floor."



ago, and now does duty as a tenement-house, as historic buildings are wont to do in our hurrying age.

Rev. ELIAS SMALLEY, D. D., was settled as the successor — not colleague — of Dr. Emmons, 17th June, 1829. After a nine years' pastorate, he was dismissed 5th July, 1838, to take charge of the Union church, Worcester, where he was installed September 19. He remained here until 1853, when he was dismissed to go to the Fourth Presbyterian church in Troy, N. Y. He was compelled by ill health to relinquish this charge not long after. But a voyage to Europe failed to restore him, and he died very soon after his return, in New York city, 30th July, 1858, at the early age of 58.

Dr. Smalley was a native of Dartmouth. He succeeded by his own exertions in fitting for college, and graduated at Brown University 1827, and Doctor of Divinity 1849. He studied theology with Rev. Otis Thompson, of Rehoboth, supporting himself as he had done in college by teaching singing-schools, in which he was singularly adept. Dr. Smalley married Louisa J., daughter of Gen. Abiel and Elizabeth Washburn, of Middleboro, and left two children, Louisa Jane, for several years teacher of music in the Wheaton Female Seminary, Norton, now resident in Boston, and George W. (See notices of graduates.) Mrs. Smalley died at Middleboro 7th June, 1874, and was buried by the side of her husband in Troy, N. Y.

Dr. Smalley's ministry in this town, though following the long and thorough fidelity and renown of Dr. Emmons, was still most pleasant and prosperous. It was confessedly his happiest pastorate, and the survivors of his people lament to this day that he did not see it his duty to remain in the country parish where all were so ready to do him honor. His memory is still cherished with tender affection in the families that knew of his suave and gracious manners without as well as within the pulpit.

Rev. TERTIUS DUNNING SOUTHWORTH was installed the fifth pastor of the church, 23d January, 1839, and was dismissed 25th April, 1850, after a ministry of eleven years.

Mr. Southworth was son of Rev. James and Mary (Dennison) Southworth, pastor of the Congregational church, Bridgewater, N. Y., and descendant of Constant Southworth, of Plymouth, whose mother, Alice, was wife of the Sir Richard Southworth,

knighted by James I, and afterwards wife of Gov. William Bradford. He was born in Rome, N. Y., 25th July, 1801, graduated at Hamilton 1827; was one year at Auburn Theological Seminary, and graduated at Andover 1829; ordained at Utica, N. Y., 7th October, 1832. Installed at Claremont, N. H., 18th June, 1834, and left in summer of 1838 to come to Franklin. After leaving Franklin he spent six months in Lyndon, Vt., then in Whitehick, Washington county, N. Y. He preached stately there and at Pownal and Bennington, Vt., for nearly five years, having a school at the same time in his house. Then he went to Pleasant Prairie, Wis., for ten years, part of the time under commission of the American Home Mission Society, until a rheumatic fever disabled him from further service. In 1869 he returned to his early home in Bridgewater, N. Y., where he died 2d August, 1874, and was buried in the silken surplice given him by the ladies of Franklin some thirty years before.

Mr. Southworth married Martha, only daughter of Luther and Martha (Niles) Warren, of Weathersfield, Vt. She was born in Haverhill, N. H., and graduated at the Hartford Female Seminary in 1837. She now resides in Springfield, Vt. They had no children.

Rev. SAMUEL HUNT succeeded Rev. Mr. Southworth as pastor, being installed 4th December, 1850, where he remained until his dismission 6th July, 1864.

Mr. Hunt was a native of West Attleboro, the son of Deacon Richard and Ann (Humphrey) Hunt, born 18th March, 1810. He graduated at Amherst College 1832, and afterwards taught the academy in Southampton, Mass., also in Southampton, L. I. From 1836 to 1838 he studied theology in Princeton, N. J., and, after supplying the pulpit a year in Mansfield, he was ordained in Natick, 17th July, 1839. In May, 1850, was dismissed, and on December 4 following was settled in Franklin. After fourteen years of good service he was dismissed in 1864. He next entered the service of the American Missionary Association, in establishing schools among Freedmen. He became associated in 1868 with Hon. Henry Wilson, afterwards Vice-President, and his former parishioner. He was his private secretary, and aided him in preparing his work, "The Rise and Fall of the Slave Power in America," and edited the last volume after Mr. Wilson's decease.

Mr. Hunt married first Mary, daughter of Maj. Joseph Foster, of Southampton, L. I.; afterwards Abigail B., daughter of Willis Fisher, of Franklin; and third Mrs. Homer, widow of Samuel Homer, Esq., of Boston. He has living a son and two daughters, of his first wife.

Since this page was written Mr. Hunt has died in Boston, 23d July, 1878.

Rev. GEORGE A. PELTON was called by the church, 18th May, 1865, and was installed 9th August, as appears by the records of the church, for one year. But he continued more than a year, until he withdrew for a Western field. The years 1867-9 he spent in Bethel, Ct. Thence he went, in 1869, to Candor, N. Y.; after four years he removed to Groton, N. Y., where he remained until 1877, when he went to Morrisville, Madison county, N. Y., where he still remains as acting pastor to the Congregational church in that village.

Rev. LUTHER KEENE was the eighth regularly installed pastor of the old church. He was a native of Milo, Me., born 30th January, 1830, and son of Luther and Lydia (Hopkins) Keene. He graduated at Amherst College, 1859, and at Bangor 1862. In October following he was settled as pastor of the Union Congregational church, in North Brookfield. At the close of a five years' pastorate he was installed here, 9th October, 1867. His successful and very promising ministry was brought to an unexpected close 17th April, 1874, by his sudden and widely lamented death. But his brief labors were marked by several permanent results; not the least being a nearly doubled membership in the church, the present commodious parsonage, and the beautiful meeting-house in which the centennial services were held, and which so many visitors admired for its chaste proportions. Mr. Keene left no children. His widow still lives in Bangor, Me., to lament her irreparable loss.

Since Mr. Keene's decease the church has had no pastor. Its pulpit has been supplied by yearly engagements or stated supplies, who can leave only transient impressions on the community and liable to be obscured, if not obliterated, by the next incumbent—a policy which this ancient and influential church can well afford to exchange for the "more excellent way" under which their fathers grew strong in numbers and in stability.

## THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE

is the center of countless associations, binding every New England child to his home and his youth. In the early days, when there was but one sanctuary in a town, it was the common center for a thousand tender hearts. In it and around it boy friendships were formed, and even deeper alliances were begun. Our towns have lost one unifying power through the multiplication of sanctuaries, by breaking up that central house which once rallied weekly all the sons and daughters as to a common home. Homely and uncomfortable to our ideas it might be, but it treasured the loves and hopes, the griefs and the consolations of all the families of the town.

Of the first meeting-house perhaps enough was said in the address. Of the second edifice we add a few further particulars.

The question of a new and larger building was raised as early as 1770; but such differing opinions obtained and the exigencies of the Revolutionary War were so pressing that nothing effective was done for seventeen years. The frequent refusals of the town to repair the old house indicate the foregone conclusion that a new one is to be built.

In 1784, April 26, £200 is voted to procure materials towards the new meeting-house. But in 1785, October 3d, it is voted that "the constable pay back the money collected for the meeting-house and return the tax-bill into the town clerk's office, and that the town clerk pull off the seal of the warrants and write on the back that they are null and void," and that a committee "view the meeting-house and report what is best to be done to repair it." These repairs, chiefly patching the shingles, supplying glass to the upper windows and boarding the lower, amounted to £6 2s. 10d.

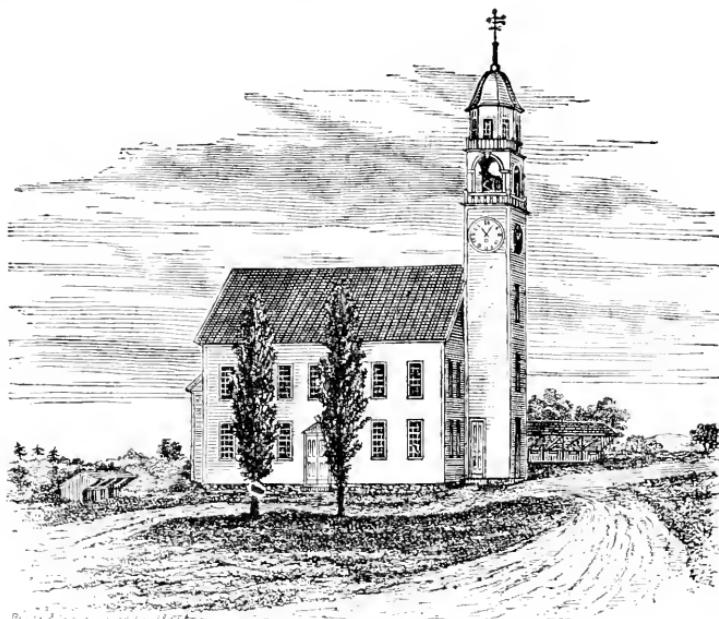
But in 1787, December 3, the new meeting-house party gain the ascendancy and proceeds forthwith to work. Samuel Lethbridge, Asa Whiting, Ens. Joseph Whiting are sent to bargain with Ens. John Adams for the "34-rod spot." They report the purchase of the nine acres of land constituting the present Common. Another committee of thirteen report that "the house be set long with a porch at each end 14 feet square, and the said house be 40 feet wide, with 50 pews on the lower floor and 10 in the gallery; the windows to contain 24 squares each, the glass to

be 8 by 10 inches." A tax of £300 is levied and "the parish" is divided into eight classes with one collector for each class. These eight collectors are to choose a chairman, assign the procuring of materials by a special committee to each class, and affix a price on materials furnished, except shingles; all materials to be delivered on the spot by the 15th of April next, 1788.

December 31st, it is voted to sell the pews at public vendue to the highest bidder as per plan, and to bid for choices, each pew so sold to be the purchaser's property, his heirs and assigns forever. Each purchaser is to pay one-eighth in money on or before April 1 next, and may also furnish three-eighths in material as wanted, giving his note, payable September 1 next, for the balance, with interest after and until paid. It is voted also that the house be clapboarded with the best sawed clapboards, shingled with white-pine shingles, and enclosed with oak and pitch-pine boards; floors to be of best pitch-pine; shingle-nails of cold iron or wrought; and Samuel Lethbridge, Peter Whiting, and Dea. James Metcalf are chosen superintending committee. They are instructed "to superintend and take effectual care that a New Meeting-house be built in this town in a manner and form agreeable to the rates passed from time to time for that purpose; and it shall be the business of the Committee to order and direct where the timber and stuff shall be laid, prepair and order the Spot for Fraiming, procure Workmen and Labourers to do the work, take care that good stones be brought and laid for the foundation, make Provision for boarding and Lodging the Workmen, fix upon the time when to begin to frame, and the Day when to Raise the building and make all Necessary provision therefor, and to procure all such Material of every Kind as may be necessary to finish the house, Excepting such as other Com'tees are Directed to procure. And the Selectmen are directed at the Request of sd Com'tee to give Orders upon the Treasurer in favour of sd Com'tee for such sums of Money as may be Necessary for their Expenditure in Compleating ye work as above directed, and sd Com'tee shall keep an Exact account of their time and Expenditures of the Money Recd and Expended and for what purpose in a Book for that sole purpose, and May if they think Necessary appoint a Clerk to Assist them who shall have a Reasonable allowance for his Services, and sd Com'tee are Directed to take Receipts for all

Moneys paid out where the sum is more then 15 shill, and shall lay there Book Before the Town for inspection at any time when properly called for."

At the next meeting, Jan. 7, 1788, the number of pews was increased to fifty-five, and the pew next to the pulpit stairs was set apart to the minister's family. The rest of the pews were sold agreeably to a previous vote. The highest price paid was £17 16s. 8d., by Asa Fairbanks, Jr., and James Metcalf. The total sales amounted to £492 6s. 4d.



THE OLD MEETING-HOUSE.

(From memory.)

July 4, 1788, a vote of thanks was given to Hezekiah Fisher "for his present of the glass to the meeting-house."

December 18, voted to finish the meeting-house next summer, and with banisters to the pews.

June 8, 1789, allowed the building committee to use any part of the old meeting-house in finishing the new.

October 12, a committee is chosen to sell the old house, or if not disposed of within twenty days to pull it down — the latter fate

probably befalling it, and also a committee to order where noon houses and stables shall be built, and to mark out the bounds of the Common."

A view of this old meeting-house is inserted on the opposite page. It is drawn from the still vivid picture on our memory, and will revive pleasant thoughts in the minds of our old inhabitants of their young days.

The cost of the meeting-house, as rendered by the committee to the town 7th March, 1791, is as follows:—

Lumber at Boston.....	£57 19s. 3d.
Carting from Boston.....	16 19s. 3d. 2
Rum, Sugar, Molasses & Lemons at Boston.....	12 6s. 3d.
Lickquers purchased at home.....	3 3s. 4d.
Cost of raising the house.....	26 8s. 9d.
Nails and other Iron ware at Boston.....	15 7s. 5d.
"    "    "    "    "    home.....	25 15s. 2d.
Painting, Tarring & Glazing.....	73 6s. 5d.
Boards, Clapboards & Shingles at home.....	33 5s. 0d.
Plastering & Whitewashing.....	18 4s. 3d. 2
Underpinning the house.....	26 12s. 5d.
Boarding the Workmen.....	81 14s. 8d.
Carpenter's Work.....	233 0s. 8d.
Doorstones & Paving round the house.....	25 1s. 3d.
Window Weights.....	5 18s. 4d.
Cost of the Curtain (behind the pulpit).....	3 7s. 3d.
Expenses of the Committee.....	69 3s. 7d.
	£726 3s. 4d.

## DONATIONS.

Hezekiah Fisher to purchase the Glass.....	£29 4s. 4d. 3
Nathaniel Thayer.....	2 10s. 7d. 3
Jonathan Wales.....	1 16s. 0d.
Josiah Hawes.....	14 3s. 0d.
Nathan Man.....	1 3s. 6d. 1

Total of class tax.....	£35 8s. 8d. 3
Received from Sale of Pews.....	£293 17s. 1d. 1
Interest on Securities for Pews.....	622 11s. 0d.
From the Old House.....	13 17s. 6d.

	£943 18s. 1d. 1
Total cost of meeting-house.....	£1,054 9s. 2d. 1
Or at the then value.....	\$3,514 86

The town seems to have been as much obscured as we have been by these footings, for they demurred at the charges of the com-

mittee, and appointed auditors to examine the accounts. In 1794, March 10, they reported as charged to the cost of the house £748 14s. 7d. 3, of which the building committee had received only £730 9s. 2d. 3, while the balance had been charged twice to them. The town voted that this overcharge of £18 5s. 5d. be paid to the building committee with interest for four years, and receipts in full were exchanged. As the cost of the house is given in the records as £1,054 9s. 2d. 1, we suppose the cost of preparing the land, etc., must be included in this amount.

In 1806 the porch at the east end of the meeting-house was exalted into a belfry, to contain a clock and bell which had been presented to the parish. This addition cost \$1,462.44. The bell and clock cost 8745.

Further than this simple item of cost we have been unable to go. The volume of parish records of the proper date has evaded our search and that of the committee. In some change of clerks it failed of a passage to the office of the new incumbent, and the names of the donor or donors of the clock and bell must remain undiscovered. Though both clock and bell live to tell the hours upon the new church, they do not tick a hint of their history.

The house remained thus furnished and unaltered until 1840. But it passed through an experience with the painters in 1830, which deserves a sentence. While the workmen were painting the belfry the bell became quite seriously bespattered. It occurred to some bright genius to complete the accident by covering the bell all over with paint. Of course the sound was fatally smothered. There was supposed to be no remedy but to transport it to the foundry in exchange for a new one. Advantage was taken to procure a heavier bell. The bill of Mr. Holbrook, of East Medway, shows the following facts:—

Bell of 1,041 lbs. at 30 ets. and yoke at \$6.00.....	\$318 30
Cr. by old bell of 890 lbs. at 20 ets.....	178 00
	_____
	\$140 30

Dated 28th Jan., 1831.

A subscription of \$152.13 overcovered this balance.

That new bell still swings in the steeple of the present Congregational church. The old bell, after a slight sweltering, to remove its useless jacket of paint, came forth as good as new, and now

tells its old tales of gladness and sympathy to the people of Paxton.

The tastes of the people having outgrown the old square pews, and desires having arisen for a good front look at the new pastor, Southworth, a movement was begun in 1840 to transform the interior into modern slips, all facing the pulpit. But as one change frequently involves another, it was decided to move the building itself to a site "about eighty feet" further north (where it now stands) and to change its front to the south, so that none could easily tell whether they had been revolved or no. The work was begun the day following the funeral of the pastor who first occupied the house after its dedication in 1788. On the Sabbath following, 4th October, 1840, the congregation occupied the hall of the academy, and continued to do so until the completion of the alterations in their sanctuary in January, 1842.

The total expenses of this transformation, as near as can be ascertained, was \$2,683.05, towards which the church fund contributed \$231.36, and individual subscriptions furnished the balance, \$1,722 being given by the central school district. In 1856 the interior walls were frescoed.

Upon the completion of the present meeting-house of the Congregational Society, their former house was sold to the Catholic church. The last sermon in it was preached by Rev. L. Keene, the pastor, 31st December, 1871, from 11 Cor., 4:18 and 5:1. In that sermon it was stated, among many other interesting reminiscences, that \$13,862.63 had been expended on the house, and that in its eighty-four years of occupancy there had been 8,736 Sabbath sermons, 584 admissions to the church, and about 900 infant baptisms under the officiating of thirteen ministers—besides the uncounted other services, joyous and sad, scenes of anxious prayer and of rejoicing in revivals wide and deep, which consecrate the house of worship and enshrine it amongst our holiest and tenderest recollections.

#### THE NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The rapid increase of the town in population and resources during and after the war rendered the old house, even with its modifications, behind the apparent demands of the times. The project of a new house was so seriously agitated and so strongly advo-

cated by the new pastor, Rev. L. Keene, that successful measures were adopted to carry this purpose into effect. A site was purchased bordering the southeast corner of the Common, and work was begun and pushed to an early completion. The building committee were Messrs. Davis Thayer, Jr., Henry M. Greene, Albert E. Daniels, O. A. Stanley, Dr. George King, E. H. Sherman, and Frank W. Ray — John Stephens architect, and Hanson & Hunniwell of Somerville builders.

The dimensions of the main building are 100 by 60 feet, audience-room 60 by 80 feet and 29 feet high, chapel attached to the rear, 45 by 55 feet, two wings 25 by 14 feet, height of steeple 164 feet; whole cost of the house furnished, \$36,000. It has 650 sittings in the main audience-room, and 100 in the gallery. The chapel will seat 500, and the dining-hall 400. The edifice was dedicated 4th January, 1872, Rev. Mr. Keene, the pastor, preaching from John, 12:5. The sermon was afterwards printed in his memorial volume.

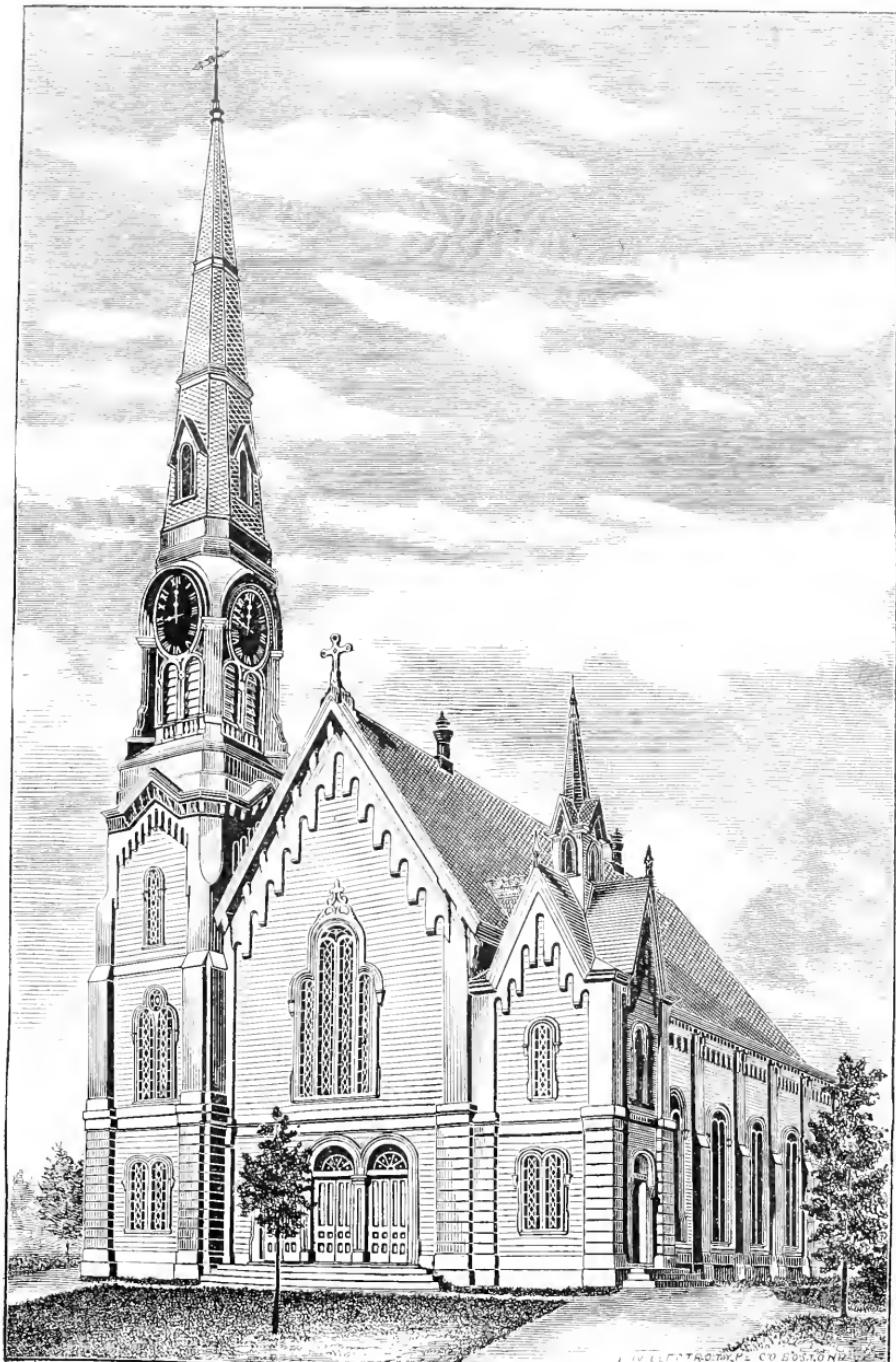
With the increase of the business of the town came in a rapid increase of its population. Not only was the original sanctuary too small for the growing members, but a diversity of faith and of modes of worship naturally followed with the incomers. Hence came a movement for other houses of worship.

Brief histories of these churches have been kindly furnished by their several present pastors, which are here inserted as given to me, in the order of their dates.

#### SOUTH FRANKLIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The scattered families of this section have always found it laborious to attend meeting from two to four miles at the Center. But their fewness forbade a hopeful undertaking of separate worship. But the funeral of a young woman in 1855 called in the attendance of Rev. Joseph N. Thayer, of Mendon, of whose congregation she was. The interest on that occasion prompted him to appoint a meeting soon after in the school-house. The presence of many seldom seen in any house of worship suggested a continuance of appointments through the summer on alternate weeks. A Sunday-school was formed, and a library procured from friends. The interest so increased as to suggest the formation of a church.

A council was called 30th August, 1855, at the house of Wil-



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MAIN STREET.



lard C. Whiting. The churches in Medway, North Wrentham, and Blackstone were represented. Rev. John Dwight of North Wrentham was chosen moderator, and Rev. Mr. Tappan of Blackstone scribe, and the council adjourned for two weeks for further deliberation. September 13, the additional churches in Mendon, West Medway, and Franklin, not previously present, appeared, and a church was organized of eighteen members. October 5, Artemas Barden and Willard C. Whiting were elected deacons. In March following, subscriptions were started towards building a meeting-house, and \$1,500 were secured. Two lots of land were given, one by Dea. W. C. Whiting, another by B. Foster. The latter site was selected by a majority of one vote, and the first stake driven June 7. September 5, the corner-stone was laid by services from Revs. S. Hunt and J. Merrill, and an original hymn by Mrs. Luther Dean. The first blow on the house was struck by carpenter Charles T. Shaw, and the house was dedicated 25th July, 1857, Rev. Mr. Hunt preaching the sermon. Deacon Barden died 27th November, 1856; James P. Pond was elected 1st July, 1858. On his removal to Medway, Paul B. Clark was chosen in his place, 1st January, 1869.

This church is still compelled to receive aid from the Home Missionary Society and has had no settled pastor, but has been supplied by acting pastors, as follows: Joseph N. Thayer, William M. Thayer, J. K. Dewing, Sumner Clark, Dr. Ebenezer Burgess, R. Carver, J. N. Walker, J. Merrill.

#### GRACE CHURCH (UNIVERSALIST) PARISH.

In September, 1856, a petition was presented to S. B. Scott, a justice in Franklin, to call a meeting in the Town Hall, for the purpose of organizing a Universalist parish. The petition was signed by Alfred Knapp, Goldsbury Pond, Jr., M. D. Lincoln, F. B. Ray, Benjamin Frost, Arnold J. Newell, James P. Ray, and Alfred Clark. A formal organization was effected under this call on October 4th. The parish was organized upon the following

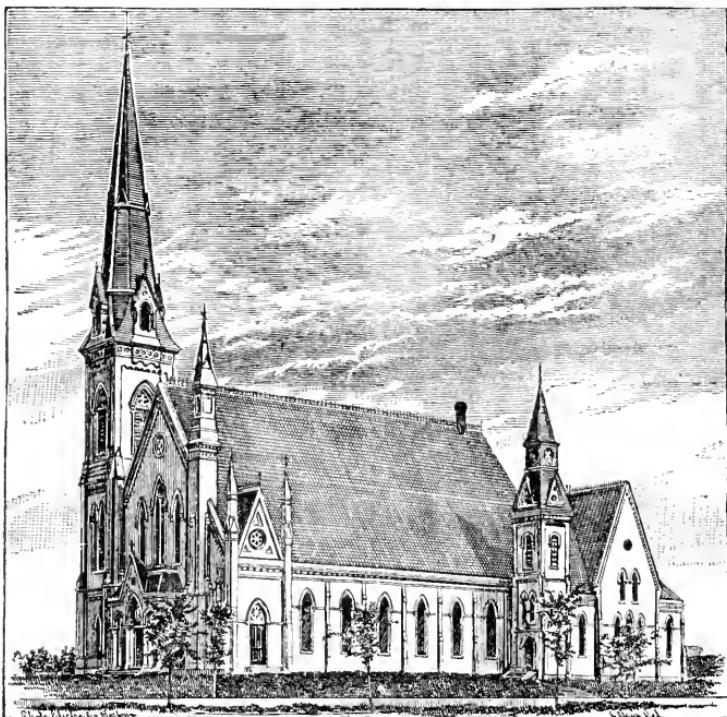
#### PROFESSION OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one God whose nature is love, and the Bible, harmonizing with nature and reason, contains a revelation

of His character manifested in our Lord Jesus Christ, who will finally restore all mankind to Holiness and Happiness.

2. We believe that virtue and happiness, vice and misery, are inseparably connected as cause and effect, and that consequently in order to be happy men must do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

To this profession a long list of names were appended, embracing some of the leading citizens of the town. Under the inspira-



GRACE CHURCH, MAIN STREET.

tion of a generous offer from the late Oliver Dean, M. D.—from the first an earnest co-worker with the parish of which he was a member until his death—it was determined to build a church in 1857. Previous to this time the congregation had worshipped in the Town Hall. This church was erected on the ground immediately in front of the magnificent edifice now owned by the parish on Main street. It was consecrated 5th May, 1858. The cost, independent of the land, was something over \$7,000. This house

was occupied by the parish until June, 1874, when it was sold to the Baptists, who removed it to School street, and now occupy it. In 1873 the parish began the erection of its present edifice, called "Grace Church," certainly one of the most beautiful and perfectly appointed houses of worship to be found in any town in New England. Its cost was about \$28,000. A view is given on the preceding page.

There was no settled pastor until 1858. Then the Rev. A. N. ADAMS was called. He was installed on the day the first church was consecrated. His resignation took effect in 1860. Early in 1861, the Rev. N. R. WRIGHT became pastor, and resigned 1862. He was succeeded by the Rev. S. W. SQUIRE, whose pastorate extended from the fall of 1862 to the fall of 1866. Mr. Squire was followed in a few months by Rev. H. D. L. WEBSTER, when, in the fall of 1867, the Rev. RICHARD EDDY became pastor, resigning in 1869. The parish, after being without a pastor for nearly three years, succeeded in obtaining the services of the present incumbent, Rev. A. ST. JOHN CHAMBRE, Doctor of Divinity in 1878, who was installed 1st July, 1872. Under his administration the parish has grown strong, and ranks second to none in the town.

A "church," that is, a body of communicants, was organized immediately upon the accession of the Rev. Mr. Adams to the pastorate, in 1858. This church is now vigorous, having a large number of communicants, to whom the sacraments are duly administered. There is also a Sunday-school, and all other auxiliary associations which assist in making a living parish, and in advancing the cause and glory of the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Between this parish and all other parishes in this village there are the most friendly Christian harmonies and interchange of fraternal courtesies.

#### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

in Franklin was organized in 1868, with thirteen members, and was recognized the same year by a council from churches within the bounds of the Boston North and South Baptist Association.

Rev. J. W. HOLMAN, M. D., was the first pastor. The church at this time held their religious services in the Town Hall. Dr. Holman was a man of kindly social bearing, an acceptable and interesting preacher, and soon gathered a good congregation of

hearers. His pastorate was brief. Rev. DANIEL ROUNDS succeeded him. During his pastorate, a neat chapel was built on East street. Here the little church for a season gave every evidence of prosperity in enlarged membership, in both the congregation and Sunday-school. But unfortunate differences and consequent alienation culminated in the resignation of Mr. Rounds, who had labored hard and faithfully for the establishment and growth of the church.



BAPTIST CHURCH.

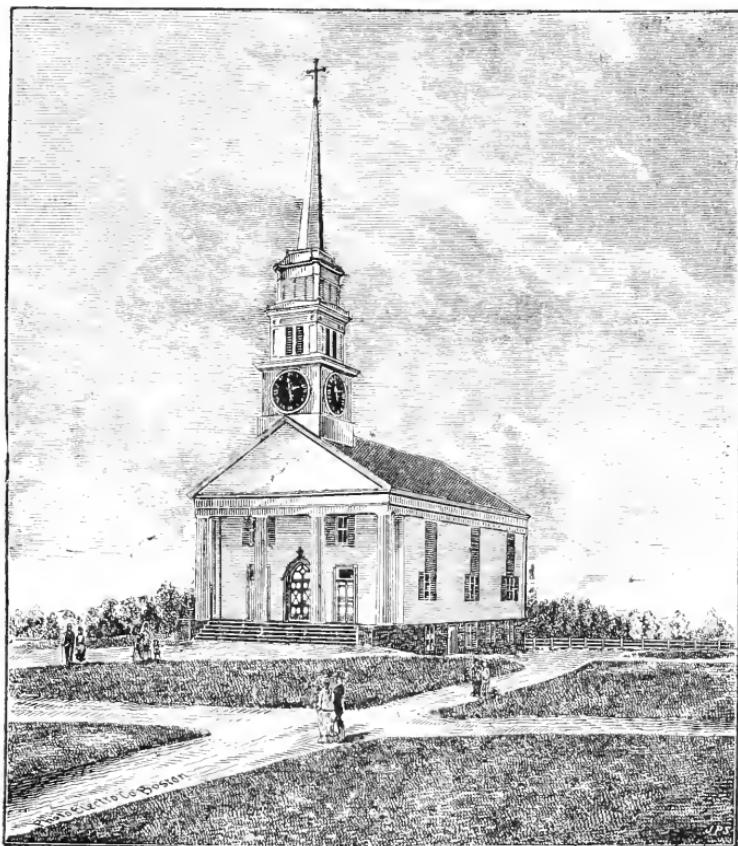
Rev. GEORGE W. RYAN was called to the pastorate of the church in May, 1873. The year following, the church edifice in which they now worship was purchased of the First Universalist Society in Franklin. The building was moved to School street and alterations and improvements made.

## CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Previous to the year 1848, there were no Roman Catholics in the town of Franklin. In the year following, however, two families took up their residence here, and shortly after a number of employees of the Norfolk Railroad Company became permanent residents in the town.

The first Mass celebrated in the town was by Rev. C. O'RILEY,

in a house on Lincoln street, now the residence of J. L. Fitzpatrick, and was attended by only five worshipers. In 1851 the Catholics became more numerous and were gratuitously allowed the use of the Town Hall for Divine services, which were conducted monthly by Rev. M. X. CARROLL of Foxboro, until 1862, when he was succeeded by Rev. M. McCABE of Woonsocket, R. I.,



CATHOLIC CHURCH.

who also gave monthly attendance for about a year. From that time until 1872, Rev. P. GILLIE of Attleboro gave occasional attendance.

In 1871 the building known as the Old Congregational church was purchased by a few zealous Catholics of the town and deeded

by Davis Thayer, Jr., to J. L. Fitzpatrick, and by the latter transferred to Right Rev. J. J. Williams, now Archbishop of Boston.

From 1872 until the fall of 1876 the Rev. FRANCIS GOUESSE of Walpole had charge of the parish, but the Catholics becoming so numerous, and all church indebtedness being removed, it was deemed expedient to apply for a resident pastor, who was supplied in the person of Rev. J. GRIFFIN, who came in February, 1877.

Under Father Griffin's care many improvements are being made. A parsonage is in course of erection, and at no distant day the church will have to be enlarged, as it is at present many times filled to excess.

#### METHODIST CHURCH.

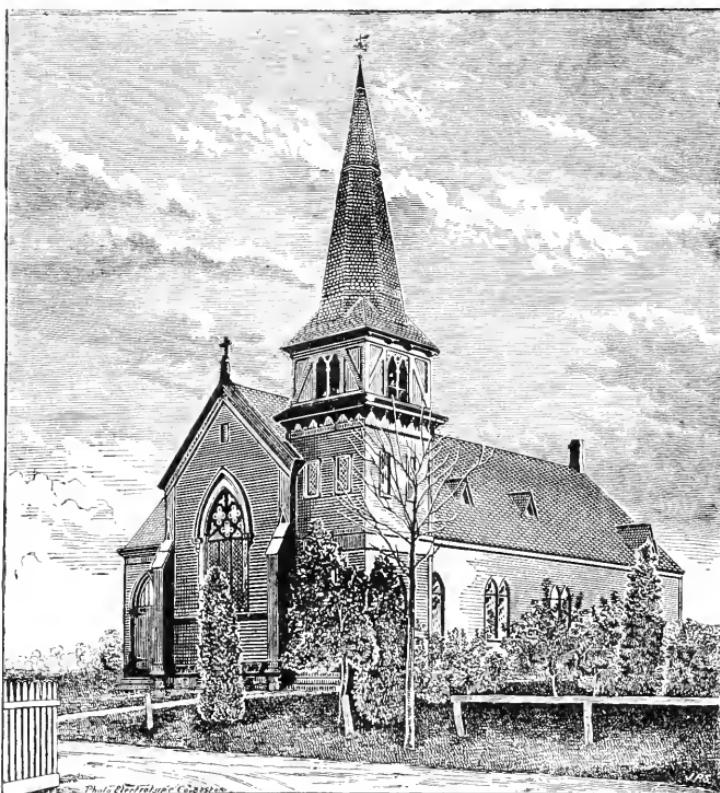
The Methodist church in Franklin owes its existence largely to the self-sacrifice and perseverance of Rev. E. P. KING. Though not the first Methodist minister who preached in the town, yet he was the first to organize and give permanency to the work.

In the year 1853 a Methodist meeting was first started in the Town Hall by Rev. JOHN M. MERRILL. He came with the intention of building up a church, if possible, and his efforts were attended with considerable success. During the two years that he remained he gathered quite a large congregation. But the work took no very deep root. Only a very few of the congregation were really Methodists, and of course were not specially interested in the founding of a Methodist church. Indeed, there seems to have been no attempt at organization.

In 1855 Rev. PLINY WOOD took charge of the work. He remained one year, and kept the work up pretty well during his pastorate, though he found some difficulty in harmonizing the different elements of his congregation. In 1856 Rev. M. P. WEBSTER came into the field, and while he seems to have labored earnestly the difficulties of the work so multiplied that he was utterly unable to meet them. Under his supervision the enterprise ran rapidly down, so that the Conference judged it expedient, in 1857, to give up the work.

But in the spring of 1871 Dr. WILLIAM R. CLARK, then Presiding Elder of the Boston District New England Conference, and Rev. WILLIAM MERRILL of West Medway again started a Methodist meeting in the Town Hall. In November of the same year Dr.

Clark sent Rev. JOHN R. CUSHING, a theological student in Boston to take charge. He organized a Sunday-school and gathered a good congregation during the few months that he remained. In April, 1872, the New England Conference sent Rev. E. P. KING to the town. He aimed from the first to establish a church as soon as possible. On the 9th of September, 1872, he organized a



METHODIST CHURCH.

church of thirteen members (three men and ten women) and proceeded at once to solicit funds for building a house of worship, of which he laid the corner-stone 3d October, 1872. He pushed the work so rapidly forward that he held services in the chapel of the new building on the second Sunday of March, 1873, and offered the house for dedication 25th June. A noted revival began in March preceding and continued throughout the year. Over two

hundred professed conversion, of whom the church swelled its membership to sixty-six and gained a strong hold in the town.

In April, 1874, after two years of successful work, Mr. King was taken to another field, and Rev. J. N. Short became pastor of the church, which position he held for three years. During that time the church steadily increased in membership and influence, though considerably crippled by the financial embarrassments of the country. In April, 1877, Rev. GEORGE W. HUDSON became pastor of the church. He reports a membership of 87, a Sunday-school of 12 officers and teachers, and 120 scholars, and church property of \$10,000.

A few persons in town who are of the "New Jerusalem Church" — Swedenborgian — have held meetings for religious worship constantly during the last seventeen years at the house of J. A. Woodward. They are, most of them, members of the Boston Society, and are not yet organized here into a distinct church.

#### XII. MINISTERIAL FUND.

It was the policy of the fathers at the first settlement of the country to provide for the permanency of the ministry. They set apart land for its support and added special donations from time to time — sometimes by municipal vote, sometimes by private legacy. The history of the ministerial fund of Franklin is not fully traceable, but the few scattered facts following have interest, as showing the estimate in which the moral culture of this community was held by the fathers.

In March, 1784, it was voted that "the old Continental money and the new Emission money in the town treasury be appropriated for to raise a fund for the support of a minister in this town forever."

May 10 it was voted "to begin to lay a foundation for raising a fund of money the interest whereof to be appropriated for the support of a Protestant Congregational minister in this town forever." They also chose a committee of five to receive donations in behalf of the town.

The moneys hinted at in the town treasury seem to have come from several sources. In the partition of Wrentham the old town funds were agreed to be divided between the two parishes according to the latest tax-list. These funds had arisen partly





from the sale of lands given to the corporation by the proprietors, partly, maybe, from the interest of certain notes held from the Province from the earlier times, and, possibly, in part from the balance of pay to the Representatives of the General Court; for, with wise economy, the precinct had fixed the *per diem* pay of its representative from time to time, and had ordered him to pay into the precinct treasury whatever he received from the Colony. His pay was at first 6s. per day, afterwards 4s. 6d. What he received from the General Court is not stated.

But the fund so increased by thrifty husbandry that the treasurer was soon able to present quite an exhibit. The earliest statement found is dated 2d March, 1792, and is as follows:—

Bills of new Emission money, \$1,091, which is.....	£327 6s.
Note for \$400 in new Emission bills.....	120
One state note consolidated.....	10 15s. 4d.
7 years' interest due 1 April next on sd note.....	4 10s. 5d.
1 Loan office note, 6 pr et. stock, \$227.38.....	68 3s. 8d.
(6 months' interest on sd note pd.)	
1 Loan office note for \$113.64, interest deferred.....	34 2s.
1 state note for £54 2s. 6d., dated 1 Jan., 1791, third part pd in cash, together with the interest, 1 Jan. 1792; re- mains due on sd note, the sum of.....	36 1s. 8d.
Cash on hand, in the treasury.....	24 11s. 6d.

The total is not given in the report and for good reason; for these State notes and Emission bills gave the town no small trouble, and their fluctuating value prevented any reliable estimate of the amount of the ministerial fund. In 1796 the town presented a petition to the General Court that it "pay the bills of New Emission & the Treasurer's note as promised by Act of 24 April, 1780, & to be redeemed in silver by 31 Nov. 1786." But they had leave to withdraw, not the money, but themselves, and nothing more is recorded of the matter until 1800. June 25 of this year the treasurer reports the full account of the fund to date to be \$760.58, besides some interest, also the Emission bills for \$1,091, note in new Emission \$400 — discount and deficit of \$89.92.

A vigorous instruction was given to the Representative, which was ordered to be printed in "Young & Mime's State paper," whatever that was. A report on this new Emission matter was also presented, which says:—

The General Court in May, 1781, levied a tax of £374,795 8s. 2d. on the towns. Franklin got an abatement of £205 6s. 5d., equal to \$684.40. Hard money was so needed that the State ordered Bills to be emitted at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  paper for one of silver, which bill was passed a month after the Bills, stopping passing, and therefore were only security for payment. But Government made no provision for payment until 1794, and then at one-quarter the nominal value, while other securities were funded at full value.\* The town received about 1284 paper dollars for 684 of silver, and if their bills were funded according to the funding law of 1794, it would have a note of \$321 and interest, and lose \$363 and interest for 18 years.

In May, 1803, the town sold the Emission bills. State note, etc., to John Whiting for an unmentioned amount, when the fund was reported to be \$1,826.63. In May, 1804, it was \$1,427.15 $\frac{1}{2}$ . In March, 1806, it was voted to sell all the 6 per cent. stock in the Loan office, Boston.

Upon the separation of parochial business from the town affairs in 1804, the ministerial fund disappears from the records and hides itself almost entirely from sight. Our next glimpse of it is in a deed of "twenty-six acres of land by measurement" lying in Leicester, Addison county, Vt., dated 15th June, 1813, and valued at \$916. The deed is from John Whiting of Franklin to the First Congregational Society of Franklin, and is quitclaimed to the parish 11th April, 1814, by Joseph Capron of Leicester, Vt. This land proved somewhat of an elephant to the parish. A frequent correspondence was carried on between Harry Deming of Salisbury and H. C. Fisher of the parish committee. The former seems to have been agent for the sale of the land, and finally takes it himself, but the net proceeds to the parish are not distinctly given—they seem to have been about \$450.

The records of the church throw some additional light upon this fund, for the church had been a contributor to the same end.† In 1790, November 25, the church committee is authorized to re-

\* The town records refer to Rev. Dr. Hemminway's election sermon of 1784, for its facts and arguments.

† As early as 1761 the first church in Wrentham had given to the second church several acres of the old Dedham lands, viz.: twenty-six acres on Blake's plain; thirty-three acres south of Tare Briel Hill; forty acres east of Millbrook; and eighteen and one-half acres east of Diamond Hill. These lands were some of them exchanged for other lots and finally sold.

loan its money to the United States Loan office and deliver the securities to the church treasurer. In 1808, September 21, the church votes to sell these securities to private parties. In 1832 a committee of the church report the fund to consist of nine notes, amounting to \$617, on interest, and cash on hand \$204.40. Total, \$820.81. Out of this fund small sums were from time to time appropriated to cases of special need; for example, \$100 was voted, 19th May, 1831, to Rev. Mr. Smalley "to make up the sum proposed to be raised by his friends for his benefit." This was to aid him in building his house. The whole fund was finally disposed of by a vote of the church 7th September, 1840, "to furnish the First Congregational parish with the funds of the church, amounting to \$700 and upwards, to be expended in repairing their meeting-house—to be rented for their current expenses, provided the parish pay the interest to Dr. Emmons during his life, and a joint voice in the settlement and dismission of ministers and the use of the meeting-house as heretofore." So ended all ministerial funds in Franklin, in securing the use of the meeting-house and a joint voice in ministerial questions.

One idea of the moral history of Franklin will be best rounded out by sundry votes and resolves of the church, and the town passed at divers times upon the

### XIII. PUBLIC MORALS.

As the main intent of the original settlement was the gathering of a Christian community, the settlers sedulously watched all social tendencies, and felt it not foreign to their duty to express themselves positively upon the practices of society. So long as church membership was essential to citizenship they could have control, and church discipline could be vigorously administered. Absentees from public worship were called up for self-justification, and all wanderers had to rise and explain. Even the young Puritans were sharply looked after. In 1744, September 12, the precinct chose a man "to take care of ye children to prevent their playing in meeting"—an office which lasted within our recollection, and was not a sinecure on summer days.

But the Revolutionary War greatly aggravated the growing laxity of manners, insomuch that a "Society for the Reformation of Morals" was formed in November, 1790, which had its annual

sermon. Several of these were printed for general circulation,\* and not without result.

The town took note of the general tendency of things, as the following votes witness:—

May, 1791, on complaint that divers persons have from time to time behaved in a very unbecoming manner by standing in the porches of the meeting-house of this town on the Lord's day and otherways conducting in a manner not only inconsistent with the purpose for which they professedly assemble, but highly unbecoming a person of good breeding or the character of a gentleman; voted that such conduct ought to be highly reprobated and discountenanced by every sober man, and that they will hold them as scandalous and infamous persons, and the titling-men are to take their names and publicly expose them next town meeting, and post up this vote and the names of all future offenders.†

The public exposure did not wholly eradicate the evil, for in 1794, April 7, it was voted that "all heads of families be requested to use their influence and authority to all under their care to pass the porches on the Sabbath with decency and propriety, without standing in said porches and thereby prevent persons from taking their seats in the meeting-house."

One provocative to that evil practice doubtless was the fact that no shade or shelter, save the horse-sheds, existed around the old meeting-house to cover the early comers to church, and the social instinct drew strongly upon those who seldom saw any one during the week to secure the current gossip of the town. The preliminary waiting, therefore, for "the little man in black" to drive up to the front door was spent in retailing the news of the week, and "the porches" were the most comfortable rendezvous. But this is a solution and not an apology.

This outer disrespect was not excluded always, even when the congregation had assembled into its family boxes. The minister did not always control their attention. Indeed, he felt that they needed a sharper admonition than a paper resolve, and he resorted to a rousing experiment. On the Sunday of July 18, 1790, while

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\*See Emmon's Works (last ed.) vol. v, p. 23 and on.

†The town had erected two posts in front of the meeting-house as a permanent place for all such notices, warrants for town meetings, etc.—exchanged afterwards for two Lombardy poplars, unto one of which Dr. Emmons always hitched his horse on Sundays.

the audience were especially inattentive and sleepy, Dr. Emmons closed his manuscript, took down his three-cornered hat, and without further premonitions descended the pulpit, passed down the broad aisle and out of the house to his home. August 3, at a church meeting, he explained his conduct; whereupon the church voted: "1. It is reasonable the pastor should insist upon having the proper attention of the people in time of public worship. 2. It is reasonable the church should desire and endeavor that proper attention be given in the time of public worship and disownenance all inattention." Some years later, 29th December, 1816, he complained directly in a letter to the church of what he calls "a designed inattention," upon which that body repeats its vote of 1790. The year following, 5th May, 1817, the town adopted the following petition to the State Legislature:—

The petition of the town of Franklin sheweth that we your petitioners, seriously impressed with a sense of the indispensible obligation of the people in this state to remember and sanctify the christian Sabbath, are fully convinced that some effectual means ought to be adopted and pursued to restrain them from the external and gross profanation of that holy day. We concur in the opinions of the respectable Association of ministers in the county of Hampshire, that the present laws respecting the Sabbath need to be revised and amended. We, therefore, unite with our fellow citizens who view the subject in this light, in respectfully and earnestly requesting the Honorable Legislature to pass such acts as they shall deem necessary to promote the due observance of the Lord's Day throughout the Commonwealth.

On the gravest evil of society, the prevalence of intemperance, the church took early and decided action. Dr. Emmons was always strictly abstemious and among the first advocates of total abstinence. While the bottle of new rum was regarded as a necessary utensil of the hay-field, excessive drinking was confined to a few notorious persons. Even these were gloriously drunk only on occasions like the annual muster, election day, and the town meeting. The earliest temperance lecture we recollect was by a Mr. Frost, who filled the old meeting-house with an enthusiastic audience and rallied a long file of names to the pledge. But there were earlier movements. Hon. M. M. Fisher says in one of his "Reminiscences," "the Temperance pledge was signed as early as 1825, after a lecture given in the Popolatic school-house

by a son of Dr. Beecher, who was visiting with his sister Catharine at Mr. Caleb Fisher's. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Elisha Bullard with others signed it, and afterwards declined to furnish liquor in hay time."

The selectmen in those days "posted" the names of inveterate drunkards to whom all dealers were forbidden to sell. The list was sometimes fearfully long. But the zeal of Drs. Miller and Hunting and others secured rapidly a wide change of opinion and practice, so that Franklin became early, and continues to be, a thorough temperance town.

#### XIV. TOWN INDUSTRIES.

The means and energies of the first settlers of this territory were devoted to the clearing of their wilderness farms. They had neither time nor need in their simple living to turn themselves to manufactures. Corn-mills and saw-mills were their only necessity. These they had to build as soon as possible. The meeting-house first, and then the corn-mill. Body and soul could then be fed for other work.

The first move in Wrentham was to grant twelve acres of land at the ponds for a corn water-mill, which was offered to Robert Crossman, and finally, in 1685, assumed by John Whiting, who built a mill on the site of the present Eagle factory. This mill remained in the line of his descendants for over a century.

But as the population spread into the present Franklin and began to crystallize about a new center, they sought for mill conveniences nearer their homes. We have not the data for giving the order of progress, but the earliest move towards a mill which we have discovered was in 1713 on Mine brook.

In the "great divident" of 28th March, 1698, "Lott 50 in Michael Willson Sen.'s part, five acres are granted to Daniel Haws jun. on the mine brook below Thomas Thurston & above the falls near Eleazer Metcalf: bounded by land laid out to the Wid. Pond in part northward, and common on all other parts: the Brook running through it." Young Daniel Hawes and his neighbor Metcalf associate with others to utilize these falls in Mine brook for mill purposes, and they sign the following contract:—

WRENTHAM, February the 7, 1713.

We whose names are hereunto subscribed doe agree to build a sawmill at the place called the Minelbrook: Daniel Haws none quarter, John Macane none quarter, Eleazer Metcalf & Samuel Metcalf none quarter, Robert Pond Sen. non quarter.

We doe covenant & agree as followes:—

1. We doe promis that we wil each of us carry on & do our equal proporeshon throught in procuring of irones & hineing framing of a dam & mill & all other labor throught so faire as the major part shall se meat to doe till the mill be finished throught and made fit for to goe then to com to a reckoning.

2. We do a gre that all of us shall have liberty for to work out his proporsion of work & in case aney none of us neglect to carry on his part of said mill the rest of the owners to carry on said work till it be done & fit to saw & he that neglects to carry on his part of said mill shall pay half a crown a day to the rest of the owners that did said work.

3. We du agre that said land shall ly for a mill pond soe long as the major part shall se fit. We du all so agre that no non shall sell his part of said mill till he has first mad a tender to the rest of the owners. We du al so agre that no non shal sel his part in the land til he hes tenderd it to the rest of the owners.

Signed sealed & delivered  
in the presence of  
EZRA POND  
JONATHAN WRIGHT  
his  
ROBERT + POND  
mark.

ROBART POND  
DANIEL HAWS  
JOHN MACCANE  
ELEASER METCALF  
SAMUEL METCALF

On the back is the still further agreement:—

to lay out each man's loot as they are drawn — the first loot is to be gin four foot from the upper sil of the streak sil and soe up unto the ind of the sleepers, and to devide it equal in to fower loots & from the sleepers towards the road so as not to interrupt the road.

ROBART POND	DANIEL HAWS
JOHN MACCANE	ELEASER METCALF
SAMUEL METCALF	DANIEL THURSTON

March the 7.  
1717

The saw-mill so built stood where Joseph Whiting afterwards had a mill, and where one of the numerous felting mills of the Ray brothers now stands.

In the laying out of a surveyor's district 29th May, 1736, there are other mills in town mentioned — “the Iron works” (which we

locate on Mine brook near the foot of Forge Hill), "Benjamin Morse's saw-mill," and "Adams' corn-mill" (which last was at City Mills). But these were hardly manufactories. Only the arts necessary to farming got any footing in the town until the beginning of the present century, when a new industry was introduced which has had an important influence upon the character and prosperity of the town.

The braiding and making of straw into bonnets came from Providence, R. I. Capt. John Whipple had a store in that city, in which his wife, Naomi, had also a small millinery shop. Her bonnets came through New York from Europe. Mrs. Whipple and her assistant, Hannah Metcalf, unraveled a scrap of the braid one day and learned the secret of its fabric. Procuring some straw they successfully imitated the braid, and soon after made and sent a box of her own bonnets to her New York importer. The trade grew rapidly, so profitable was it, and other Providence ladies learned the process. In the summer of 1799 several Providence girls came to a boarding-school in Massachusetts, wearing their home-made bonnets, which created no little excitement. One of them, Sally Richmond, came to Wrentham academy. She knew the art and taught it to the ladies where she boarded. Thus was straw-braiding introduced to this State through Wrentham, and naturally spread next into this town.

The first bonnets were made of oat straw flattened, and contained from sixteen to eighteen yards of wide Dunstable. So mightily did the novelty take that no girl was considered of the *ton* without one. The fashion gave a vigorous impulse to the trade and the sale of straw bonnets spread through the land.

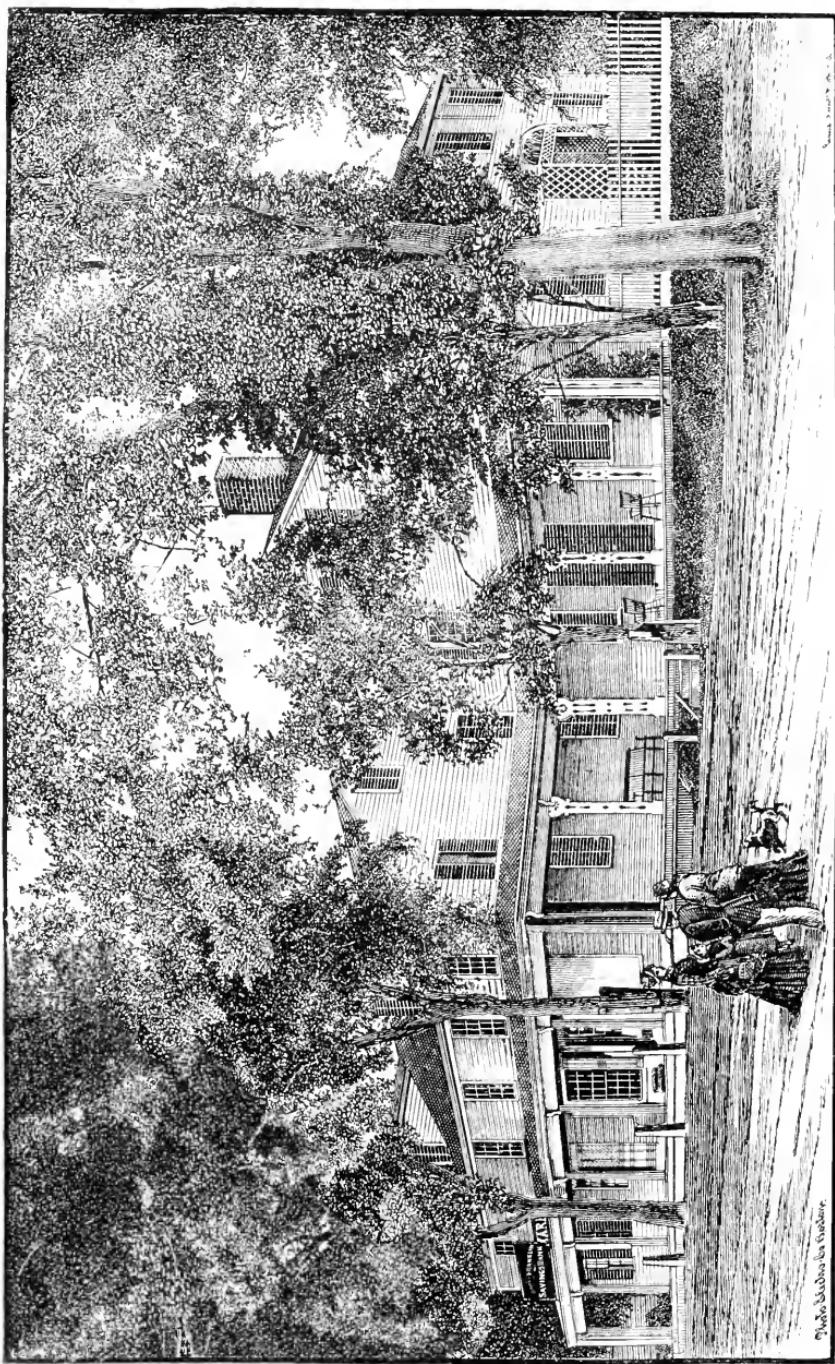
The Wrentham ladies in 1804 bought an organ for their church by contribution of straw bonnets, which were sold by their agent in Maine and with no small profit to himself.\*

One result of the sudden uprise of this new industry was a great addition to the business of small trading stores. They sold their goods in exchange for straw-braid. The stock so accumulated they soon began to convert into bonnets, and this led to special manufactories for straw goods. Fisher & Day, of Wrent-

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\* This organ was moved from its "proper and conspicuous place" in 1823, into one of the back pews, and Dr. James Mann wrote a eulogy upon the whole "achievement," which was printed in the *Norfolk Repository*, 1804.





DAVIS THAYER HOMESTEAD.

ham, first entered into this business in 1804. In 1810 Asa and Davis Thayer opened a store in Franklin at the City Mills, selling their straw braid received for goods to Fisher, Day & Co. About 1812 they bought the Adams store near the Center, and re-established themselves much more largely, manufacturing their own bonnets in shapes and styles of their own. This was the second straw-goods firm in the county. They at first made from 6,000 to 8,000 bonnets per annum. In 1816 the Wrentham firm failed, by the selling out of one of the partners, it is said, and A. & D. Thayer were left sole occupants of the new industry. Asa Thayer died in 1816, and Davis conducted the business alone until 1820, when Hermon C. Fisher became a partner. He finally started a separate concern, and others also entered into the business. But the Thayer house still continues in the same name and with greatly enlarged facilities and success. Franklin is now one of the chief towns where this industry flourishes. In 1869 it had no less than seven manufactories of straw goods, producing 1,500,000 hats and bonnets at a value of more than \$1,000,000. This amount has been greatly increased by the use of improved machinery, although fewer persons are employed at their homes and fewer firms conduct the business.

A view is given opposite of Major Thayer's house and place of business. His store was on the left and the entrance where the settee is standing. The piazza is a modern addition. The first central post-office was in this store.

Another industry in the town of growing importance is the manufacture of felt goods. The first shoddy-picker, and probably the first in the country, was started in 1849 at Unionville by Messrs. J. G. & J. P. Ray.

Col. Joseph Ray came with his family to Franklin in 1839 and engaged at first in making cotton goods. His three sons soon took up different lines of woolen goods, enlarging their mills and increasing their number at different localities, until their various factories of cotton, cassimere, felts, &c., produce about a million yards per year of satinets alone. The total of their products we do not know. Other firms have also lately entered upon similar industries within the town, but of these we have not any data, historic or otherwise. These have brought their accompaniments of

machine shops, planing-mills, and artisans, making the region of the depots lively centers of activity.

The engraving opposite gives a view of the office of Messrs. Ray in the second story left, the National Bank in the right, and the present post-office and stores on the first floor. The building stands on the corner of Main and Depot streets, and is of pressed brick.

The shoe business has never put more than a single foot in the town. In 1850, N. C. Newell bought, moved and converted the old Einmon's barn into a boot shop. J. M. Freeman followed him soon after in the same shop, but his increasing business has led him twice to rebuild larger accommodations. Other manufactories of less extent have been started at different dates, which cannot here have special mention. Franklin is a very busy town, where loafing finds a difficulty in resisting opportunities for work.

But as an evidence that Franklin is not wholly material in its tastes, it should be recorded that it has at this date two weekly newspapers well conducted, besides a job-printing office, not to mention at least one boy's hand-press doing a lively little business.

The Franklin *Register* was first issued in October, 1872, by James M. Stewart, editor and proprietor, and is still in a flourishing condition under his assiduous management. Another weekly sheet has lately appeared, called the Franklin *Sentinel*, by R. E. Capron, indicating a conviction of the town's growing intellectual appetite for more.

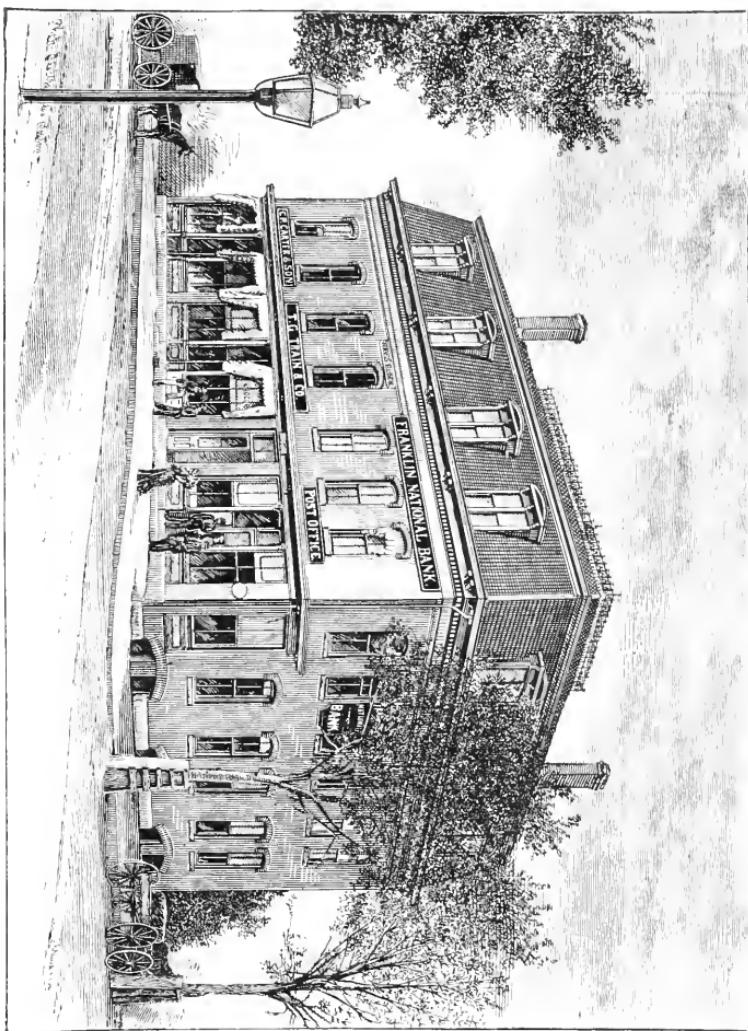
The business of the town sustains a national and a savings bank, both successfully managed. Stores, shops, etc., requisite to a thriving town, abound. A view of one of the later blocks (Fletcher's) on Main street, nearly opposite the post-office, is given between pages 116 and 117.

The following statistics from the State census of 1875 will show at a glance the extent of the town's industries at that date: Manufacturing establishments where goods are made, 21; value of produced goods, \$1,232,947; occupations where work is done, 26; value of products, \$37,968; steam engines, 12; water-wheels, 9; horse power, 1,175; capital invested in manufactures, \$325,625; yearly wages, \$208,840; total industrial products, \$1,299,915.

The following table, compiled from the earliest to the latest reliable date, by S. W. Richardson, Esq., collector of United







RAY'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET.



States Internal Revenue, will exhibit the material progress of the town during the past century: —

## INDUSTRIAL TABLE.

Year.	Polls.	Valuation.	Houses.	Barns.	Horses.	Oxen.	Cows.	Sheep.
1786....	253	£2,401 18s. 0d.	127	119	132	198	570	856
1790....	274	2,803 14s. 6d.	143	131	139	270	788	...
1800....	296	\$13,294 40	169	157	180	275	729	...
1810....	288	17,318 95	180	178	163	265	733	...
1820....	323	15,524 75	210	180	143	274	599	...
1830....	286	343,124 00	234	208	149	274	563	301
1840....	372	417,078 00	262	227	183	191	448	129
1850....	384	648,456 00	304	240	185	192	493	12
1860....	545	811,636 00	379	269	245	142	508	5
1865....	543	1,116,660 00	402	...	269	...	573	16
1875....	717	1,433,635 00	464	...	331	...	466	4
1878....	890	1,551,645 00	563	...	365	...	522	
1880....	953	1,736,370 ~	632	320	448	40	393	
		1,723,950 ~	658	354	451	50	569	
								16 = 4,053

## LISTS OF PUBLIC OFFICERS.

(From the incorporation of the precinct to the present time.)

## 1. PRECINCT CLERKS.

Daniel Thurston (first clerk), 1738.	Michael Metcalf, 1757.
Ezra Pond, 1739, '42.	Hezekiah Fisher, 1758, '69, '73.
Simon Slocomb, 1740, '41, '43, '48, '52.	Timothy Pond, 1759, '62.
John Fisher, 1744, '47.	Jonathan Whiting, 1763, '68.
Jabez Fisher, 1753, '56.	Ebenezer Metcalf, 1774-'77.

## 2. TOWN CLERKS.

Asa Pond, 1778, '80, '82, '85.	Capt. David Baker, 1824-'36.
Hezekiah Fisher, 1781.	Wilkes Gay, Jr., 1837-'39.
Nathan Daniels, Jr., 1786, '91, 1804.	Davis Thayer, Jr., 1840-'45.
Amos Hawes, 1792, 1803.	Theron C. Hills, 1846-'62.
Asa Harding, 1805, '15.	Alpheus A. Russegue, 1863-'75.
Lewis Harding, 1816, '23.	George W. Wiggin, 1876-'78.

## 3. PRECINCT TREASURERS.

Eleazer Metcalf, 1738.	Robert Blake, 1743-'52, '58, '68.
Nathaniel Fairbank, 1739.	Baruch Pond, 1754-'57, '61-'64.
David Jones, 1740, '41.	Daniel Thurston, 1759, '60, '65-'67, '69-'71.
Thomas Bacon, 1742, '53.	

## 4. TOWN TREASURERS.

Asa Whiting, 1778-'87, '92, '93.	Lt. Phineas Ware, 1800-1804.
Seth Lawrence, 1788-'91.	Timothy Metcalf, 1805-'16.
Joseph Whiting, Jr., 1794-'96.	Simeon Partridge, 1817-'19.
Hanan Metcalf, 1797-'99.	Col. Caleb Thurston, 1820-'32.

Joel Daniels, 1833-'55, '42-'53.  
 Wilkes Gay, Jr., 1836-'39.  
 George W. Morse, 1840, '41.  
 Theron C. Hills, 1854-'60.

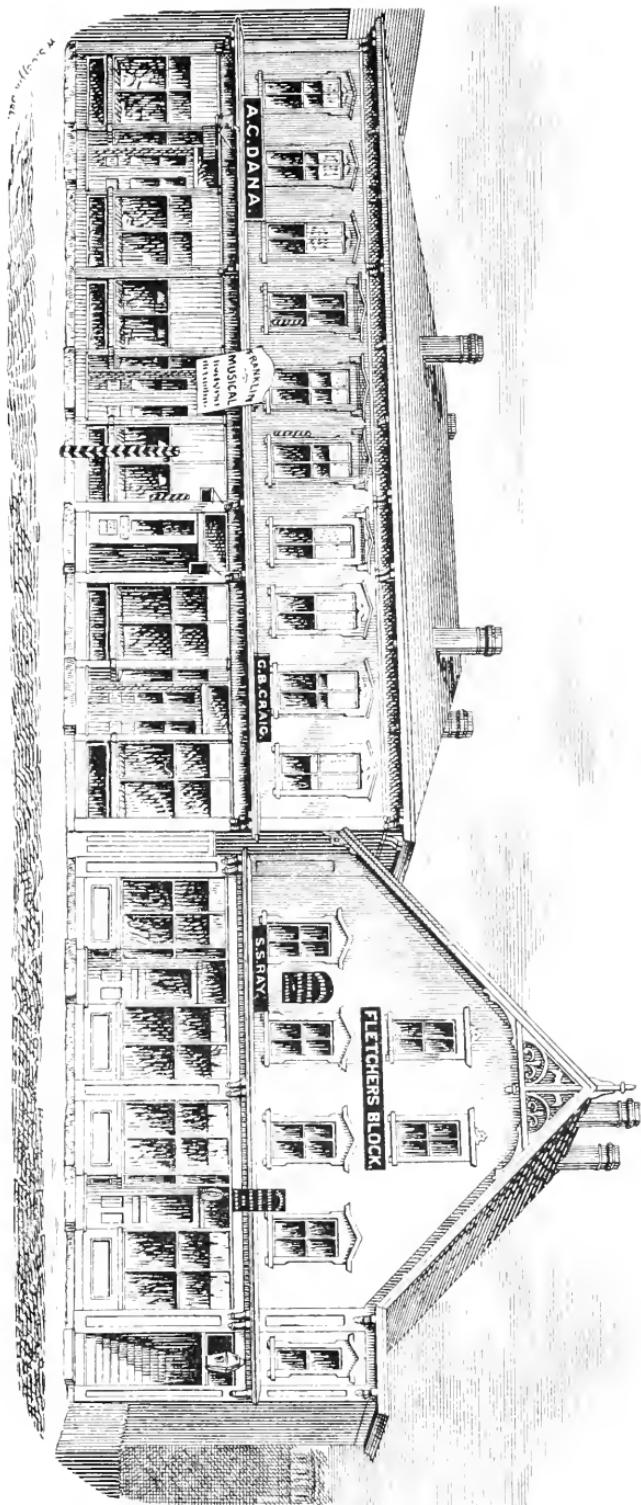
Adams Daniels, 1861, '62.  
 Alpheus A. Russegue, 1863-'74.  
 James M. Freeman, 1875-'78.

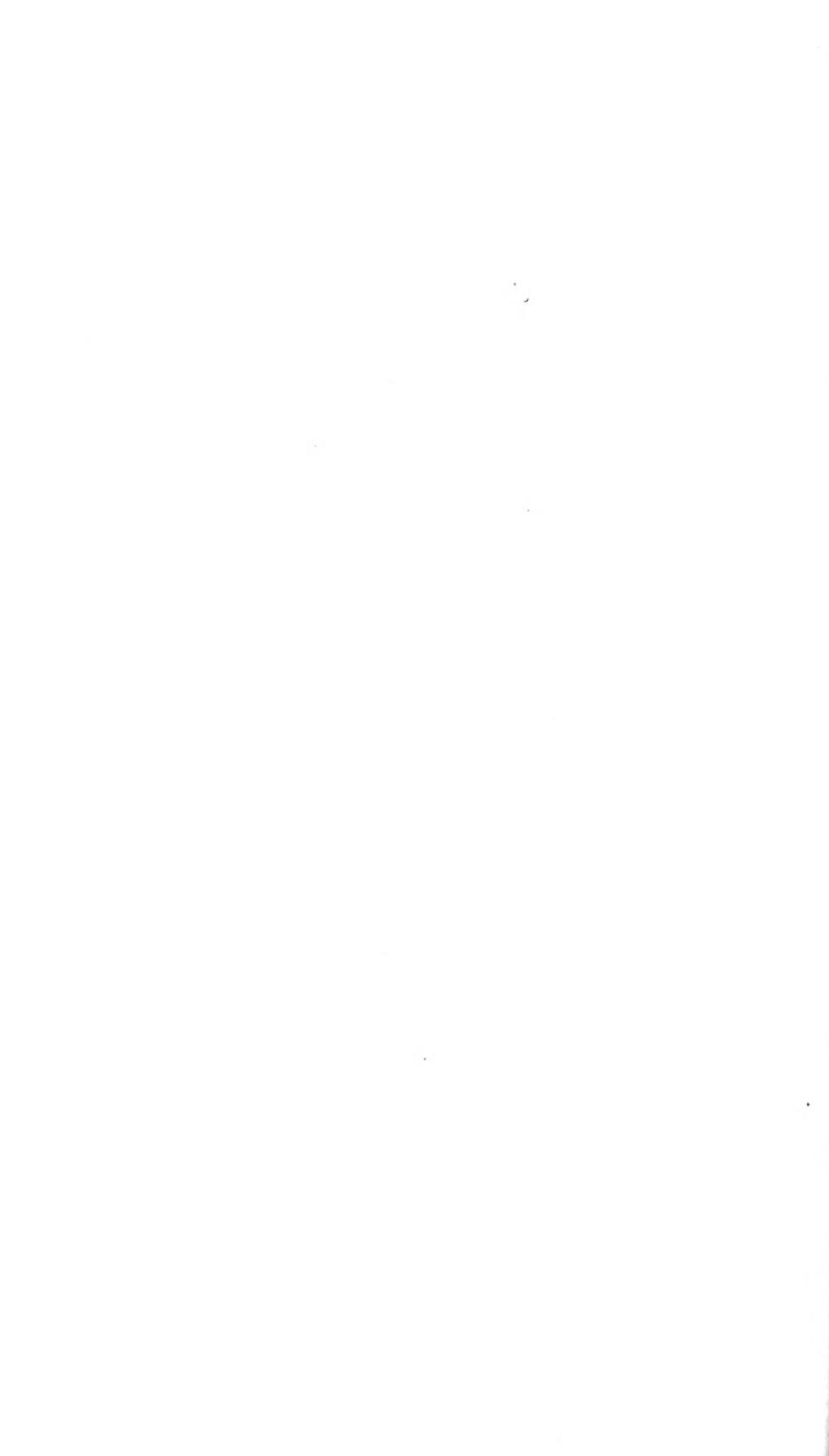
## 5. SELECTMEN.

Samuel Lethbridge, 1778.  
 Dea. Jonathan Metcalf, 1778, '79.  
 Asa Whiting, 1778, 79.  
 Hezekiah Fisher, 1778.  
 Ens. Joseph Hawes, 1778, '79.  
 Ebenezer Lawrencee, 1779, '80.  
 Joseph Whiting, Jr., 1779.  
 Capt. Asa Fairbanks, 1780.  
 Samuel Morse, Jr., 1780, '81, '83.  
 William Gilmore, 1780-'82.  
 James Metcalf, 1781.  
 John Richardson, 1781, '82, '87, '94  
 -'98.  
 Asa Pond, 1782-'85.  
 Benjamin Pond, 1782.  
 Peter Adams, 1782.  
 Joseph Hills, 1783-'86.  
 John Boyd, 1783-'85, '93.  
 Nathan Daniels, 1783.  
 Ebenezer Dean, 1786-'88.  
 Nathan Daniels, Jr., 1786-'88, 1802  
 -'04.  
 Moses Knapp, 1788, '99, 1800, '01.  
 Seth Bacon, 1789-'91.  
 Capt. Eli Richardsou, 1789, '91, '92,  
 '99, 1800, '01.  
 Peter Whiting, 1789-'91, 94-'98.  
 Elisha Harding, 1790.  
 Jonathan Wales, 1792, '93.  
 Isaac Heaton, Jr., 1792, '93.  
 Pelatiah Fisher, 1794-'98.  
 William Adams, 1799-1800, '02.  
 Amos Hawes, 1802, '03.  
 Capt. Stephen Kingsbury, 1803, '04.  
 Timothy Rockwood, 1804, '05.  
 Dea. Joseph Bacon, 1805-'08.  
 Jabez Fisher, Jr., 1805.  
 James Metcalf, 1806-'08.  
 Capt. Robt. Gilmore, 1806-'09.  
 Lieut. Phineas Ware, 1809, '10.  
 Lewis Fisher, 1809-'18, '20-'24, '28.  
 William Makepeace, 1810-'13.

Daniel Sayles, 1811, '12.  
 William Boyd, 1813, '14, '17.  
 Nathan Woodward, 1814-'16.  
 James Adams, 1815, '16.  
 Capt. Asa Harding, 1817-'22.  
 Capt. David Hartshorn, 1818, '19.  
 Capt. Dyar Clark, 1818-'23.  
 Ensign Seth Dean, 1823-'28.  
 Lieut. Willis Fisher, 1824-'27, '43.  
 Col. Caleb Thurston, 1825-'34.  
 Wm. Makepeace, Jr., 1829-'32.  
 Dr. Spencer Pratt, 1829-'31.  
 Capt. Alfred Knapp, 1832-'35..  
 Col. Nathan Cleveland, 1833-'37.  
 Joel Daniels, Jr., 1835-'38.  
 Elisha Richardson, 1836-'38.  
 Wane Adams, 1838-'40.  
 Capt. Hartford Leonard, 1839-'41.  
 William Metcalf, 1839, '40, '42, '43.  
 Albert E. Daniels, 1841, '42.  
 Rila Scott, 1841.  
 Martin Green, 1842, '43, '45.  
 Daniel Thurston, 1844.  
 Dea. Levi F. Morse, 1844-'46.  
 Capt. Erastus Rockwood, 1844-'49.  
 Dea. Peter Adams, 1846-'49, '75,  
 '76.  
 Col. Sanl B. Scott, 1847.  
 George W. Nason, 1848-'54, '57, '59.  
 Joel P. Adams, 1850, '51.  
 Elisha Hubbard, 1850, '51.  
 Dea. Joseph T. Bacon, 1852, '53.  
 Robert Gilmore, 1852, '53.  
 Elias Cook, 1854-'56.  
 Stephen W. Richardson, 1854-'56,  
 '75.  
 Joseph Morse, 1855, '56.  
 Francis B. Ray, 1857, '58, '77.  
 Seth Partridge, 1857.  
 Maxey Cook, 1858, '59.  
 Lowell B. Cleveland, 1859, '60.  
 Otis Wales, Jr., 1860-'63.

FLETCHER'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET.





James P. Ray, 1860-'63.	William Rockwood, 1867-'69.
James M. Freeman, 1861, '64, '66 -'74.	Aaron H. Moses, 1870-'72.
Joseph G. Ray, 1864, '65.	John H. Fisher, 1873.
Horatio Kingsbury, 1864.	Jason Tower, 1873.
Joseph H. Wardsworth, 1865, '66, '68-'72.	Henry R. Jeneks, 1874-'77.
Gardner Adams, 1865.	Joseph W. Clark, 1874, '75.
Lewis W. Hills, 1866, '67.	Erastus L. Metcalf, 1875.
	Edmund Hartshorn, 1875, '77.
	Alfred G. Metcalf, 1875.

## 6. SCHOOL COMMITTEE.\*

Dr. Nathaniel Miller, 1802, '09, '11 -'13, '34.	Erastus Emmons, 1815, '16.
Pelatiah Fisher, 1802.	Whiting Metcalf, 1816.
Capt. Amos Hawes, 1802, '03.	Alfred Ware, 2d, 1816.
Dea. Jonathan Metcalf, 1802, '08, '13, '15, '20-'22.	Linther Gowen, 1817, '18, '20.
Oliver Smith, 1802-'05.	Philip W. Miller, 1817, '18.
Thomas Mann, 1803.	James Fisher, 1819.
Elihu Pond, 1803, '05, '08, '09, '17, '18.	Elisha Harding, 1819.
Asa Harding, 1803, '04, '08, '16.	David Baker, 1819.
John W. Richardson, 1804, '08, '17, '18, '20-'22, '28.	Alexander C. White, 1820, '21.
Robert Gilmore, 1804, '05, '20, '21.	Joseph Hills, 1820, '21.
Eli Richardson, Jr., 1804, '09-'11.	Preston Fisher, 1821.
William Boyd, 1805, '19, '20.	Herman Bassett, 1821.
Asa Gowen, 1805, '12, '16.	Capt. Dyar Clark, 1821.
Willis Fisher, 1808, '15, '17, '20, '21, '35.	Dr. Amory Hunting, 1822, '24-'26, '29, '34, '38.
James Wales, 1809.	Willard Fisher, 1824-'26, '28, '34, '40-'44, '48, '49.
Dea. Joseph Bacon, 1809, '11.	Fisher Daniels, 1824, '25, '28, '29.
Isaac Morrill, 1810.	George C. Wilde, 1826.
Ichabod Dean, 1810, '27.	William Makepeace, Jr., 1826, '30.
Lewis Fisher, 1810, '11.	Lieut. Hiram Knapp, 1827.
Isaac Walker, 1810.	Ira Blake, 1828, '30, '32, '34.
Rev. Nathanael Emmons, 1811, '12.	Elias Metcalf, 1828, '29, '31, '33.
Dea. James Adams, 1812-'14, '26.	Alpheus Adams, 1829.
Caleb Fisher, 1812, '13.	Rev. Elam Smalley, 1831, '34, '38.
Dr. Spencer Pratt, 1813-'15, '17 -'20, '24, '27, '30, '36.	Abijah W. Metcalf, 1831.
Col. Lewis Harding, 1814.	Abel Pond, 1831.
Capt. Nath'l Adams, 1814.	Paul B. Clark, 1831, '33, '42-'44, '48 -'50.
Simeon Partridge, 1814.	Capt. A. E. Daniels, 1832, '35.
William Makepeace, 1815.	Ward Adams, 1832, '35.
	Joel Daniels, Jr., 1833.
	Dea. Levi F. Morse, 1833, '34.
	Capt. Philo Fisher, 1833.

\* Prior to 1802 the schools were in charge of the selectmen and clergymen of the town.

Jarvis H. Hills, 1833.  
 Smith Fisher, 1835, '39, '40.  
 Hermon Fisher, 1835.  
 Asa G. Norcross, 1835.  
 Wilkes Gay, Jr., 1835.  
 Mortimer Blake, 1836-'38.  
 Stephen W. Richardson, 1836, '51, '52.  
 Erastus Rockwood, 1836.  
 Elisha Hubbard, 1836.  
 John H. Fisher, 1837.  
 Ebenezer A. Warfield, 1837.  
 Horatio Kingsbury, 1837.  
 Rev. Tertius D. Southworth, 1839-'49, '52.  
 Dr. Shadrach Atwood, 1839.  
 William Phipps, Jr., 1839.  
 James O. Brown, 1839, '40.  
 George W. Morse, 1840, '41.  
 Rev. Asa Hixon, 1845, '46, '55, '56.  
 Hartford P. Leonard, 1845, '46.  
 William E. Peck, 1847.  
 Dr. Jona. Mann, 1847.

J. Geo. Hubbard, 1850.  
 Waldo Daniels, 1850, '54-'56, '58-'60, '66-'69, '77.  
 Rev. Samuel Hunt, 1851, '53, '57, '63.  
 James C. Whiting, 1851, '52.  
 Dr. L. L. Scammell, 1853.  
 Rev. John M. Merrill, 1854.  
 Thomas M. Bacon, 1855.  
 Rev. Joseph Thayer, 1856.  
 Dr. Wm. B. Nolen, 1857, '58, '74-'76.  
 Wm. P. Shepard, 1857.  
 Sewall Fisher, 1858, '59, '65.  
 Geo. A. Woodward, 1859-'61.  
 Marcellus A. Woodward, 1860-'62.  
 Dr. Geo. King, 1861-'63, '67-'73.  
 Adin D. Sargeant, 1862-'64, '70.  
 Rev. J. K. Deering, 1863.  
 Rev. S. W. Squire, 1864-'77.  
 Joseph Woodward, 1865.  
 Geo. W. Wiggin, 1873-'75.  
 William F. Ray, 1876, '77.

## 7. REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT.

Ensign Joseph Hawes, 1778, '81.  
 Dr. Joseph Metcalf, 1779, '80.  
 Peter Adams, 1782, '83.  
 Samuel Lethbridge, 1784, '85.  
 Hon. Jabez Fisher, 1786, '98, '99.  
 Capt. Thomas Bacon, 1787, '88.  
 Lt. Hezekiah Fisher, 1789-'97.  
 Col. John Boyd, 1800-'04.  
 Pelatiah Fisher, 1805, '06.  
 Capt. Joseph Bacon, 1807-'14.  
 Lieut. Phineas Ware, 1811-'17.  
 Lewis Fisher, 1815, '16, '18-'21, '23, '26.  
 Dr. Nath'l Miller, 1827, '33.  
 Col. Caleb Thurston, 1829, '30.  
 Willis Fisher, 1831.  
 Major Davis Thayer, 1832, '34, '40.  
 Ensign Seth Dean, 1834.  
 Joel Daniels, 1837.  
 Col. Nathan Cleveland, 1838, '39.  
 Ward Adams, 1840.

Albert Daniels, 1841.  
 Col. Saul B. Scott, 1843, '44.  
 Dr. Shadrack Atwood, 1847.  
 Col. Paul Clark, 1848.  
 Geo. W. Nason, 1850.  
 William Metcalf, 1851.  
 Capt. Hartford Leonard, 1852.  
 Seneca Hills, 1855.  
 Mason F. Southworth, 1856.  
 Theron C. Hills, 1857.  
 Stephen W. Richardson, 1858.  
 James M. Freeman, 1860.  
 James P. Ray, 1861, '77.  
 Rev. Wm. M. Thayer, 1863.  
 Frances B. Ray, 1865.  
 Alpheus A. Russegue, 1867.  
 Henry E. Pond, 1868.  
 Rev. Richard Eddy, 1870.  
 Joseph A. Woodward, 1871.  
 John H. Fisher, 1873, '74.  
 Davis Thayer, 1876.

## XVI. MILITARY.

The chapter of our military history may be brief, as the materials for its most important portion have already been quoted in the historical address. Of the participation of our fathers in the earliest struggles of the Colony with the Indians no account has been found. Some of them were engaged in the war against King Philip, and doubtless in the subsequent French and Indian wars and expeditions against the Canadas. But the individual participants have been mostly hidden by the obscurities of nearly two centuries.

In a list of Captain Moseley's company of Dedham, dated "9 X bar 1675" (Dec. 9), are found the names of Samuel Colborne, John Day and Robert Weare, of whom the last certainly was the ancestor of a Franklin family. In a list of prisoners exchanged and brought to Boston in the schooner "Brittania," 6th October, 1748. Moses Washburn, of Wrentham, is included as "taken prisoner at Brunswick and carried to Canada." These instances, however, have little interest beyond showing that, however crowded our ancestors were with the founding of their own precinct, they were not unaware or neglectful of the needs of their Province against its papal enemies on the north. Still, as it was so much a contest of ambitious rival crowns, they gave to their wars none of the enthusiastic response with which they met the first movements towards their own independence. Of this enthusiasm the votes and resolves of the town, both before and after its incorporation, already quoted, give hearty evidence. The reader is referred to that portion of this volume for samples of the patriotism of those days.

When it became evident that a collision with the mother country was imminent, Wrentham, like other towns, diligently drilled its militia and organized its two corps of minute-men, who were to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning wherever called. The movement of the British troops to seize some military stores of the Province at Concord, in April, 1775, gave the first opportunity to try the alacrity of these minute-men.

In the archives of the State are preserved the rolls of the men who responded to this first alarm of April 19, as well as those who enlisted afterwards in the Colonial service during the War of the

Revolution. I am indebted to Mr. A. D. Sargent of the Centennial Committee for copies of these rolls, as also of the volunteers in the late rebellion. The earlier ones contain simply the names and rank of the members. But the intelligent reader will be able to distinguish the Franklin men upon the lists. They are, therefore, inserted without comment:—

A true return of the travel and return and time of service of the Minute company under the command of Capt. John Boyd of Wrentham, in Con'l Gaston's regt. assembled and marched the Nineteenth of April last in the alarm:—

CAPT. JOHN BOYD'S COMPANY.

	Captain.	Moses Hawes,	Private.
John Boyd,	Left.	Abijah Hawes,	"
Ebenezer Dean,	Ens.	Ebenezer Hartshorn,	"
John Gould,	Sartg.	John Hill,	"
Jonathan Holbrook,	"	Stephen Harding,	"
John Ellis,	"	Joel Hawes,	"
Reuben Partridge,	"	Paul Holbrook,	"
Eli Richardson,	Corp'l.	Asa Hawes,	"
John Pond,	"	Stephen Kingsbury,	"
Samuel Jones,	"	Timothy Lane,	"
Phineas Ware,	"	Joseph Metcalf,	"
Ralph Man,	Drum.	Titus Metcalf,	"
Eli Pond,	Fiff.	Haman Metcalf,	"
John Plimpton,	Private.	Samuel Metcalf,	"
Timothy Adams,	"	Samuel Mars,	"
Nathaniel Adams,	"	Theodore Man,	"
Joel Adams,	"	Luther Metcalf,	"
William Adams,	"	Samuel Partridge,	"
Moses Adams,	"	Daniel Pond,	"
William Boyd,	"	Benjamin Pond,	"
Francis Clark,	"	Penuel Pond,	"
Elijah Clark,	"	Abial Pratt,	"
Jeremiah Daniels,	"	David Pike,	"
Comfort Dickerman,	"	Benjamin Parnal,	"
Obed Fisher,	"	Olivier Richardson,	"
Joel Fairbanks,	"	Moses Rockwood,	"
Peter Frost,	"	Amos Rockwood,	"
Thomas Gay,	"	Nathan Thayer,	"
Jonathan Graves,	"	Beth'l Foster,	"
James Hills,			£37 15s. 6d.
Ziba Hills,			JOHN BOYD, Capt.

## MIDDLESEX Ss., Decem'r 22, 1775.

The above named John Boyd made solemn oath that the above roll by him subscribed is just and true in all respects.

Before Moses Gill, Jus. Peace for the province.

Examined and compared with the original.

by SAMUEL MOODY. }  
EDWARD RAWSON, } Committee.  
MICHAEL FARLEY, } "

In Council Feb'y 9, 1776 Read & allowed & ordered that a warrant be drawn on the Treas'r for £37 15s. 6d. in full of the within roll.

PEREZ MORTON, Dep. Treas.

A Muster Roll of the First Military Company of the Town of Wrentham who marchd the thirtieth day of April, 1775 upon an Alarm, under the command of Thomas Bacon Capt., and left the Place of Rendezvous the first day of May following:—

## CAPT. THOMAS BACON'S COMPANY.

Thomas Bacon,	Capt.	Nathan Daniels, Jr.,	Private.
Seth Bacon,	Lient.	Robert Blake,	"
Asa Pond,	Sergiant.	Zephaniah Lame,	"
Solomon Blake,	Corpl.	Daniel Thurston,	"
Benjamin Clark,	Private.	Elisha Rockwood,	"
Benjn. Rockwood,	"	Elisha Richardson,	"
Joseph Ellis,	"	Billa Metcalf,	"
Eleazer Fisher,	"	Seth Wright,	"

## SUFFOLK, Ss., Deer. 18, 1775.

Then the above named Thomas Bacon personally appeared and made oath to the truth of the above roll.

before me, STEPHN METCALF

£7 9s. 8d. Justice Peace.

THOMAS BACON

Deer. ye 15: 1775.

It is evident by the names that the above was the contribution of the west preeinct to the battle of Bunker Hill and the investment of Boston. Wrentham contained at that date two military companies, rolls of which are preserved. We have copied here only the north company, although some living in this preeinct may have been included in the south company under the command of Capt. Samuel Cowell.

As the collision with the mother country developed its alarming proportions and the Provincial Congress called upon the people for

troops to defend their liberties, Wrentham promptly responded with its quota for the coming war. Many of the men, whose names have been already given, enlisted in the Colonial service. We can select the residents of this part of the town only by similarity of name. We have the muster rolls of five companies "who marched from Wrentham on the nineteenth Day of April in the Colony Service," 1775. They were respectively under the command of Capts. Asa Fairbanks, Benjamin Hawes, Sammel Kollock, Elijah Pond, and Oliver Pond. They were of the militia who constituted General Washington's first command in the siege of Boston, and out of them were mainly recruited our quota of the Continentals who followed him in his campaigns. Captains Fairbanks' and E. Pond's companies are mostly of Franklin names, as follows:—

## CAPT. ASA FAIRBANKS' COMPANY.

	Capt.	Asa Metcalf,	Private.
Asa Fairbanks,			"
Joseph Woodward,	Lieut.	Matthias Haws,	"
Joseph Haws,	"	John Fairbank,	"
James Gillmore,	Sergt.	Joseph Streeter,	"
Joseph Hills,	"	John Adams,	"
David Wood,	Corp.	Nathan Wight,	"
Peter Adams,	Private.	Philemon Metcalf,	"
John Clark,	"	Asa Whiting,	"
Jesse Ware,	"	Abijah Allen,	"
Peltiah Fisher,	"	Jonathan Hawes,	"
Isaac Heaton,	"	John Pearce,	"
Peter Fisher,	"	Mill Man,	"
Elisha Harding,	"	Ebenezer Dean,	"
Levi Chaffee,	"	Matthew Smith,	"
William Sayles,	"	Asahel Perry,	"
James Smith,	"	John Clark, Jr.,	"
Joseph Harding,	"	Joseph Hills,	"
William Gilmore,	"	Aaron Fisher,	"
Iehabod Dean,	"	Joseph Guild,	"

## CAPT. ELIJAH POND'S COMPANY.

	Capt.	Amos Bacon,	Drum.
Elijah Pond,			Clerk.
Asa Pond,	Lt.	Nathan Daniels,	"
Jona. Bowditch,	2d Lt.	Elisha Rockwood,	Private.
Robert Blake,	Serg.	Abijah Thurston,	"
Timo. Pond,	"	Robert Pond,	"
Duke Williams,	Corp.	Zepha. Lane,	"
Sam Pond,	"	Eleaz. Partridge,	"

	Private.	Elisha Partridge,	Private.
Joseph Ellis,	"	Simeon Daniels,	"
Benj. Pond,	"	John Allen,	"
Timo. Rockwood,	"	Jas. Fisher,	"
Elias Ware,	"	John Metcalf,	"
Elisha Bullard,	"	Elisha Pond,	"
Daniel Thurston,	"	John Richardson,	"
Nathan. Thayer,	"	Elisha Richardson,	"
Peter Darling	"		
Simeon Fisher,	"		

In a pay-roll of Capt. Samuel Cowell's Company of Col. Benjamin Hawes' Regiment in the secret expedition Sept. 25, 1777, to October 30, we identify the names of Michael Metcalf, Timothy Metcalf and Benjamin Rockwood.

In a return of Capt. Asa Fairbank's Company, enlisted for the Continental army, and dated 16th February, 1778, as Wrentham's quota at the time of the division of the town, there are only five persons from Wrentham, and none of them Franklin names. The rest belonged elsewhere. Another company, Capt. S. Fisher's, contains none from Franklin, unless it be John Kingsbury. These two muster-rolls count forty-seven privates.

In a "Return of all the men in the first Military foot Company in Wrentham, called the North Company in the West preeinet in the town that have enlisted into the Continental army, or that have been Hired by said Company," under Capt. John Metcalf, of the nineteen men are eleven from Wrentham, viz.: Samuel Metcalf, John Metcalf, William Lane, Asa Hawes, William Greene, Thomas Moloy, Jonathan Norris, Isaac Silver, Hugh Denniston, John Barnes, William Pedley. This is dated Feb. 16, 1778. Only three Franklin names.

The town has not preserved, to our knowledge, any of these muster-rolls or any other data to make up a list of its soldiers in the Revolutionary War. In the changes of town clerks, no care seems to have been taken to transfer the documents of town affairs. It is a sample of the general negligenee of the present to regard the inquiries of coming generations. We have devoted much research, and in all available directions, to trace Franklin's share in the Revolution, and we are satisfied that the rolls given do not include all who should be on them. Elihu Pond was imprisoned and nearly starved by the British in the old sugar-house at New York, and from which he escaped by night, as we have

heard him tell his story, but he is not on any roll. Philip Blake was blacksmith and commissary to a portion of the American army on Dorchester Heights, and was afterwards in Sullivan's retreat on Rhode Island, but he is not on any roll. Penuel Pond is among the minute-men, but there is no record of his after-enlistment, or that he, as his grave-stone in the City Mills cemetery says, "died 16 Dec. 17— in York harbor on board a guardship, supposed to be poisoned by ye British doctors." There were at least seventeen Ponds from Franklin in the American army, and how many of other names cannot now probably be determined.

Of the interesting incidents and deeds of patriotism of that period this chapter must be equally deficient. They were many, as a few current traditions which we have been told might testify.

Franklin was not only intolerant of royalists and their sympathizers, but showed some special favors to British subjects who succeeded in escaping from the British armies. Tradition has it that more than one deserter found a safe hiding place in the scattered houses of this precinct. John Adams, ancestor of the Adams family in this town, was not the only victim of an English press-gang who found refuge here and a home. John Newton was perhaps a more striking case. He was a native of England, born about 1755. He had regularly learned the trade of ship carpenter, and had also served his full time as a soldier in the British army. But he was impressed on board a man-of-war at the beginning of the Revolution and brought to America. Feeling that he had a right to his freedom, he succeeded in communicating a plan of escape to some of the Yankees in or near Boston, who promised him assistance. On a stormy and dark night, while his ship was blockading the harbor, he slid overboard undetected, and, guided by a beacon light which had been burning two or three evenings, he swam ashore, a distance of three miles. When he landed he could neither walk nor stand, but his waiting friends carried him to a shelter till he was recruited sufficiently to flee into the country. On his way to Dedham he was met and questioned who he was. He answered promptly, "John — going," and so he was, as rapidly as possible, until finally he reached Franklin. The name which served him once so well he retained, and was known among our fathers as John Going, now modernized into Gowen. He married, according to the town records, 14th June, 1786, Mary Cook

of Bellingham, and had four sons—Benjamin, Asa, John and Luther. Luther remained in town on the paternal farm, married a neighbor's daughter, Elvira Metcalf, and had also four sons—Warren, George, Charles and Horace, of whom the third is still a resident of Franklin, and the son of another keeps the Franklin House. The others have *gone*.

This town also once counted among its citizens a person who excited quite a commotion in his day. It was immediately after and consequent upon the Revolution, and hence finds a place here.

Genet and his successor Fauchet, French Ministers to the struggling United States, thought to forward our independence by exciting the Canadians to revolt, and, through Adet, it was proclaimed to them that the French would aid them. Some over-enthusiastic Americans rallied to Adet's private call. Among them was David Lane. He was a native of Attleboro, but traded autumns in North Carolina, where he somehow obtained the prefix of *Mc*, and was known as McLane. By this name he married in Franklin, 26th October, 1786, Rebecca Gilmore, and had one daughter, Rebecca G. McLane, who, in due time, 26th March, 1818, married Robert Gilmore. On the early death of his wife, he married as second wife a Miss Davis, of Charlton, and had another daughter, Cynthia, lately residing in Worcester.

As a sample of his adventurous spirit, he, with Paul Draper, built the "old coffee house" on the north side of Market square, in Providence—the first house where the floor joists were laid *on* instead of morticed *into* the plates. It was a famous resort of merchants in its day, which the older men will remember. The State granted McLane a lottery to help him pay for it, but he became involved and desperate. In this mood he fell in with Adet, accepted a commission as General in his revolutionary project, and started for Canada in 1796. His directions were to go privately to Quebec, raise a company of raftsmen, who, when mustered and all ready with their eight-feet iron-headed drafting pikes, were to make a dash and seize the garrison of Quebec, when the city would be at their mercy. McLane gathered his men unconscious of his purpose, but on his way the next year, via St. John, to lead the project, he told his plans to a Frenchman, Charles Trichette, whom he had hired to assist, and to John Black, a Canadian ship-builder. But Black had just been elected to the Provincial Parliament, and

for his own political advancement he handed over McLane to the authorities as a traitor and spy. The government determined to make him a warning to the French habitants. He was, therefore, solemnly tried, condemned, and publicly executed on the glacis outside the wall of Quebec, near St. John's gate, 21st July, 1797. The body was then taken down from the gallows, the head was severed and held up by the hair to the crowd, the entrails were taken out and burned, and the limbs severed, but not separated, and his remains were buried at a cross road, after the English penalty for treason. Grants of land were made to the informants and witnesses. But Black lost his reputation for his agency in the infamous affair, and ultimately he became a loathsome beggar in the streets of Quebec. It was the last and probably the solitary instance of hanging, drawing and quartering in America, and that upon an American citizen and a Franklin man, who, it was said at the time, "might with more propriety have been treated as an unhappy lunatic than a criminal—a stranger, friendless and alone, he was altogether powerless."

His youngest daughter subsequently, by courageous persistence, secured the mutilated remains, and they were brought to Franklin and decently interred. Dr. Emmons preaching a funeral sermon upon the occasion. They lie unmarked by a stone in our Central cemetery.

The muster-rolls for the war of 1812 are at present in Washington awaiting the determination of claims under the recent pension law, and are therefore inaccessible to the public, except at the time and cost of a journey thither. But it is believed that few of our citizens engaged in that second conflict, excepting such as were ordered out a few days for coast defense. But the war of

#### THE REBELLION

met with a quick, wide and earnest response. As soon as the town meeting could be summoned, 2d May, 1861, the selectmen were authorized to draw \$3,000 for war purposes, and to add to the United States pay to enlisted and accepted men \$10 per month to single men, and \$15 per month to married men, who enlisted within thirty days. The spontaneous feeling is indicated in this vote then passed *nem. con.* : —

*Resolved*, That it is the duty of all good citizens to disown and frown upon every individual among us, if any there be, who shall express sentiments disloyal to the Government of the United States, or offer aid or sympathy to the plotters of treason and rebellion.

It was no ephemeral impulse, for when the grand conspiracy began to develop its formidable proportions and bitterness of purpose, the town again thus decidedly expressed itself, 19th July, 1862:—

The selectmen, clergy, and all good citizens are earnestly solicited to encourage and stimulate by public meetings and otherwise the prompt enlistment of the required number of volunteers from this town, that our fellow citizens already in the service may be cheered and sustained by accessions of numbers and strength, the rebellion crushed, and peace and prosperity soon smile upon our common country.

As a result thirty-six men were raised on a quota of twenty-three, the overplus being credited to Dedham by some agreement. On the call of August, 1862, for 300,000 men, the selectmen reported forty-three men raised on a quota of thirty-four. Subsequent action shows an equally ready response by the town to each call of the Government for troops.

Not only the town officially, but individual citizens were generous in their subscriptions towards paying bounties and aiding the families of volunteers. It may not be invidious to other equally marked instances to give one sample. In the levy of July, 1862, Adams Daniels offered \$10 each to the first ten volunteers; James P. Ray offered the same sum to the second ten which Frank B. Ray duplicated; Henry M. Greene offered \$10 to each of the last seven of the quota of twenty-seven, to which Albert E. Daniels added \$5 each; Davis Thayer then offered \$5 to each of the twenty-seven, and Oliver Dean duplicated Mr. Thayer's offer. A similar subscription was made in 1864, in which a much larger number of citizens participated and a greatly increased sum was the result. But these facts are spread upon the town records for the use of the next centennial historian, and need not be quoted to the participants now living.

An incident in connection with the first detachment of volunteers—that over-quota of thirty-six—may find a place here. Lewis R. Whitaker, who had fought for liberty in Kansas, had

been specially instrumental in raising this body of men, and had been commissioned their Second Lieutenant. It was called Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. Just before their departure the citizens met them in the Town Hall, 10th September, 1862, for a farewell. The volunteers had meanwhile procured a fine sword for their officer. This sword was presented by George W. Woodward with a telling speech to the surprised Lieutenant. The Captain of the company, Minot of Boston, followed, and others. A Bible had already been given to each man, and near the close of the meeting a temperance pledge was produced to the men. Captain Minot signed it, followed by Lieutenant Whitaker. He then called upon "the boys" to imitate his example, which they did with two or three exceptions, rushing *en masse* upon the platform in their enthusiasm.\* When it was announced that only twenty-three were called for, one of the thirteen declared they would all go if they went afoot and alone. These were not hirelings, but Franklin's own sons, and held the spirit of their fathers of 1776.

As nearly as can at present be ascertained, 218 men were furnished by the town during the war, but many of these were non-residents. The rolls furnished by Mr. Sargent of the Centennial Committee from the State House have been diligently compared with the list in the town clerk's office, and by several persons acquainted with the men, to determine who were properly citizens of this town. The following list is presented as the result. It is not claimed to be perfectly accurate, but it is the nearest to accuracy which the writer can obtain. The town might well appropriate a small sum to make the list and history of its own soldiers in the rebellion perfectly complete and full. The next century will heartily approve of the expenditure, and future pension agents will lose three times the cost to the benefit of future claimants: —

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\* Lieutenant Whitaker, now resident in Franklin, bears the commission of the *first* police officer in the town, issued by the selectmen May 18, 1877. A good testimonial both to him and to the morals of the town that it needs but one policeman, after a century's growth, to gather in its "wild oats."

## REBELLION RECORD.

CHARLES R. ADAMS, son of Peter. Enlisted June, 1862, Company A, Thirty-third Regiment. Was transferred to Forty-first Regiment. Went to New Orleans and was changed to Third Cavalry. Returned in August, 1864. Was under Sheridan, and killed in the battle of Berryville, near Winchester, 19th September, 1864.

HENRY P. ADAMS, son of Oren W. Enlisted January, 1861, in Third Infantry. Was taken prisoner November, 1864, and in Andersonville sixteen months.

WILLIAM M. E. ADAMS, son of Erastus. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was discharged at end of service — September, 1864.

ALVIN B. ADAMS, son of Oren W. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company G, Sixteenth Regiment.

WILLIAM W. ADAMS, son of Oren W. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was discharged at end of service.

ANDREW J. ALEXANDER, son of William. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

LOWELL W. ADAMS, son of Oren W. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company G, Forty-fifth Regiment. Re-enlisted March, 1864, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

WILLIAM G. ADAMS, son of Gardner. Enlisted August, 1862, in Company K, Forty-fourth Regiment. Was in the battle of Little Creek, N. C. Was wounded at Newbern. Was honorably discharged at end of service.

CALEB W. BALLOU, son of Caleb. Enlisted August, 1862, in Company H, Fortieth Regiment. Was discharged for disability February, 1864.

WILLIAM H. BALDWIN, son of Henry. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was taken prisoner. Died in Andersonville 23d October, 1864.

SETH BLAKE, son of Seth. Enlisted August, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted in 1864. Was captured in second battle of Bull Run. Was prisoner in Andersonville four months. Was honorably discharged.

ADIN BALLOU, son of Albert. Enlisted in Tenth Maine Regiment.

OWEN E. BALLOU, son of Barton. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Fourth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

CHARLES H. BEMIS, son of Henry. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

WILLIAM A. BALLOU, son of Albert. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

THOMAS COFFIELD, son of John. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted for three years. Was honorably discharged.

BARTON F. COOK, son of Milton. Enlisted September, 1861, in Company II, Third Battalion, Rhode Island Artillery. Re-enlisted. Was honorably discharged.

JOSEPH W. COOK, son of Winslow. Enlisted in Rhode Island Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

DANIEL C. CORBIN, son of Otis, Jr. Enlisted July, 1861. Was in battle at Bull Run, Antietam, and Fredericksburg. Was wounded. Was discharged January, 1863.

ANTHONY CONNER, son of Isaac. Enlisted May, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted. Was transferred to the Thirty-second Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE CLARK, son of John. Enlisted May, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted. Was taken prisoner. Died in Andersonville.

NATHAN CLARK, son of Alfred. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted. Was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness. Was discharged. Died at home in consequence of wounds.

JAMES CLARK, son of John. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company B, Eighteenth Regiment.

BARTON A. COLVIN, son of Jasper. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

CHARLES A. COLE, son of \_\_\_\_\_. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE W. J. COLE, son of \_\_\_\_\_. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

CORNELIUS DUGAN, son of \_\_\_\_\_. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company K, Thirty-third Regiment. Was transferred to Third Cavalry. Was at the capture of Port Hudson. Was honorably discharged.

JOSEPH DAY, son of Hermon. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was transferred to veterans. Was sick and discharged.

EDWARD H. FREEMAN, son of James M. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE M. FARRINGTON, son of Nathan. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was promoted to First Sergeant. Was in the battles of South Mountain, Antietam, Sulphur Springs, Fredericksburg, Vicksburg, and Jackson, Miss. Was wounded and discharged.

ALFRED J. FITSPATRICK, son of John L. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company II, Eighteenth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

JOHN M. FISHER, son of Weston. Enlisted August, 1862, in Company C, Thirty-eighth Regiment. Was killed at Berryville 19th September, 1864.

WALTER M. FISHER, son of Walter H. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

MARCUS GILMORE, son of Marcus. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. Was honorably discharged.





WILLIAM S. GILMORE, son of Philander. Enlisted in Company F, Tenth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

NATHANIEL S. GROW, son of Nathaniel. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

SAMUEL E. GAY, son of Willard. Enlisted September, 1861, in Company K, Thirty-first Regiment. Was discharged at Kennea, La., October, 1862, for disability.

PLINY A. HOLBROOK, son of Ellis. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

JOSEPH W. HOLBROOK, son of Eliphalet. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

SAMUEL C. HUNT, son of Rev. Samuel. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was Hospital Steward in Foster General Hospital, Newbern, N. C. Was honorably discharged.

FRANK F. HODGES, son of Willard. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

NORMAN HASTINGS, son of Nathaniel. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Died on return 27th June, 1863, as the ship was entering Boston harbor.

ALBERT L. JORDAN, son of Alfred. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was wounded at Gettysburg, the bullet passing through his wallet and his wife's picture; also at Antietam, Bobster Mills (?), Blackburn's Ford, and Chancellorsville. Was honorably discharged.

HENRY A. JORDAN, son of Alfred. Enlisted October, 1861, in Company H, First Cavalry. Re-enlisted in Third Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

SAMUEL H. JORDAN, son of Alfred. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Re-enlisted in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. He lost his left arm at Cold Harbor, June, 1864. Was discharged disabled.

EDWIN A. JORDAN, son of Alfred. Enlisted October, 1861, in Company H, First Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE KING, M. D., son of George. Enlisted August, 1863. Surgeon in Sixteenth Regiment. Was discharged April, 1864. Re-enlisted as Surgeon of Twenty-ninth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

H. D. KINGSBURY, son of Nathaniel D. Enlisted for three years in Company K, First Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

EMERY T. KINGSBURY, son of Fisher A. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE A. KINGSBURY, son of Horatio. Enlisted for nine months in Company B, Forty-second Regiment. Was taken prisoner at Brashier City, La. Was paroled and discharged.

HERBERT L. LINCOLN, son of Manley. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was wounded at South Mountain. Died in Baltimore 9th October, 1862. Body interred in Franklin.

GRANVILLE MORSE, son of Levi F. Enlisted for three years, May, 1861, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted in Thirty-second Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

*R* LEWIS L. MILLER, son of John W. Enlisted for three years in Company E, Twelfth Regiment. Was wounded at Bull Run 30th August, 1862. Died in Georgetown, D. C., 2d October. Buried in Franklin.

EUGENE H. MARSH, son of Lewis H. Enlisted June, 1861, for three years, in Second Rhode Island Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

JEREMIAH MURPHY, son of Thomas. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment, for nine months. Re-enlisted in Company K, Fifty-sixth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

CHARLES M. NASON, son of George W. Enlisted July, 1862, in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment, for three years. Was honorably discharged.

WILLIAM E. NASON, son of George W. Enlisted July, 1861, in Company A, Eighteenth Regiment. Detailed to the Quartermaster's Department. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE W. NASON, Jr., son of George W. Volunteered 19th April, 1861, in Company I, Fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, for three months. Was discharged 31st July. Re-enlisted 14th August, 1861, in Company H, Twenty-third Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, for three years. On January 4, 1862, was appointed Commissary and Store-keeper in the fleet with Burnside's expedition at Annapolis, Md. March 20th was transferred to Provost Marshal's Department at Newbern, N. C. May 2, 1864, was appointed Colonel of Fire Department Regiment. Was honorably discharged 23d June, 1865, at end of service. [The Fire Department Regiment consisted of 800 white men, and was organized by the Commanding General both as infantry soldiers and to protect the Government stores at Newbern from rebel incendiaries. Colonel Nason was first elected Chief Engineer by ballot of the regiment, and then appointed Colonel by the General in command.]

ALBERT D. NASON, son of George W. Enlisted September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment, for nine months. Was honorably discharged.

ALBERT J. NEWELL, son of Arnold J. Enlisted for three years in Company I, Twenty-third Regiment.

OLNEY P. NEWELL, son of Hiram. Enlisted September, 1861, for three years in Company B, First Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

DUANE NEWELL, son of Nelson C. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Re-enlisted in Twelfth Heavy Artillery. Was discharged for disability.

GEORGE L. PARTRIDGE, son of Seth. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company B, Forty-second Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

WHIPPLE PECK, son of Whipple. Enlisted for three years in First Rhode Island Regiment. Was discharged for disability in 1864, on account of wounds.

HORACE W. PILLSBURY, son of Stephen. Enlisted May, 1861, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was wounded at second battle of Bull Run, August, 1862. Was discharged disabled September, 1863.

ALFRED J. PIERCE, son of Israel. Enlisted February, 1862, for three years in Third Rhode Island Artillery. Was honorably discharged.

ISRAEL F. PIERCE, son of Israel. Enlisted in Rhode Island Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

HENRY M. PICKERING, son of Samuel. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

JAMES M. RYAN, son of James. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Re-enlisted in Twelfth Heavy Artillery. Was honorably discharged.

WILLIAM SULLIVAN, son of ——. Enlisted July, 1862, for three years in Company K, Thirty-third Regiment.

CHARLES H. SCOTT, son of ——. Enlisted July, 1862, for three years in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment.

SMITH O. SAYLES, son of Oren W. Enlisted in —— Rhode Island Cavalry.

THOMAS W. SAYLES, son of Oren W. Enlisted in —— Rhode Island Cavalry.

MICHAEL O. SULLIVAN, son of Jeremiah. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE W. THOMPSON, son of Thaddeus. Enlisted May, 1861, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted, and was in the whole campaign of McClellan's. Was at the second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg. Was transferred to Thirty-second Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

RANSOM TIFT, son of James. Enlisted May, 1861, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was at the battle of Antietam, &c. Was honorably discharged.

WILLIAM H. THOMAS, son of Sandrus. Enlisted July, 1861, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Re-enlisted for nine months in the Forty-second Regiment, and re-enlisted as a veteran in the Heavy Artillery.

ABIRAM W. WALES, son of Amos A. Enlisted July, 1861, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was in the battles at South Mountain and Antietam. Was honorably discharged.

SHEPARD G. WIGGIN, son of Joseph. Enlisted August, 1862, for three years in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Died in Falmouth, Va., 16th January, 1863.

SILAS H. WILSON, son of Enoch. Enlisted July, 1862, for three years in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was wounded in the battle at South Mountain, taken prisoner, and confined in Richmond. Was paroled and discharged for disability.

OTIS WINN, son of Peter. Enlisted August, 1862, for three years in Company A, Thirty-fifth Regiment. Was in the battles at South Mountain and Antietam. Died in Alexandria, Va., 6th March, 1863, and was buried in Franklin.

HENRY J. WARD, son of Reuben. Enlisted for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

OWEN W. WALES, son of Otis, Jr. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was discharged.

LEWIS F. WILLIAMS, son of William. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months. Re-enlisted as a veteran in the Twelfth Heavy Artillery.

JOHN B. WHITING, son of Sydney. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

LEWIS R. WHITAKER, son of Richard. Enlisted for nine months, September, 1862, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was appointed Second Lieutenant 3d September. Re-enlisted and appointed Second Lieutenant in the Twelfth Heavy Artillery. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE F. WOODWARD, son of Austin. Enlisted September, 1862, for nine months, in Company C, Forty-fifth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

DANIEL W. WHITING, son of Willard C. Enlisted for three years, in Company K, Twenty-third Regiment. Was promoted to Sergeant. Re-enlisted for three years. Was honorably discharged.

LEWIS E. WALES, son of Otis, Jr. Enlisted for nine months in Company B, Forty-second Regiment. Died of fever in New Orleans, 19th June, 1863. Was buried in Franklin.

JOHN D. WALES, son of Otis, Jr. Enlisted for nine months, in Company B, Forty-second Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE H. SCOTT, son of George W. Enlisted December, 1863, for three years in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment.

ALONZO F. EDDY, son of Asahel. Enlisted December, 1863, for three years, in Company I, Eighteenth Regiment. Was transferred to Company D, Thirty-ninth Regiment. Was honorably discharged.

GEORGE L. RIXFORD, son of ——. Enlisted December, 1863, for three years in Fourth Cavalry. Was honorably discharged.

JAMES F. SNOW, son of John W. Enlisted December, 1863, for three years, in Company C, Fifty-sixth Regiment.

GEORGE R. RUSSELL, son of Thomas. Enlisted September, 1863, for three years in Twelfth Heavy Artillery.

WILLIAM G. WHITE, son of Adam H. Enlisted April, 1864, for three years, in —— Battery.

DANA FOLLEN, son of James. Enlisted February, 1865. Was honorably discharged.

It is believed, though not so stated in the town clerk's records, that all the survivors above were honorably discharged at the end of their service, as only one of the ninety-six is recorded as a deserter. His name is undesignated.

The preceding list of names is believed to represent only natives or residents of the town at the time of their enlistment in

our quota. But it is known not to include all the sons of Franklin who enlisted in other towns and States. Such a list it were perhaps impossible to collect. But it has been ascertained that Edward Dean, son of Luther, entered the army from Kansas, and rose to the rank of Adjutant-General in the service. Charles H. Thayer, son of Nathaniel (see biographical sketches), enlisted while in Providence into A. E. Burnside's First Rhode Island Regiment for three months, and was in the first Bull Run battle. Re-enlisted in First Rhode Island Cavalry, and was put in charge of the training camp, at Cranston, R. I., for which he was promoted to Second Lieutenant. Served in Army of the Potomac and Shenandoah Valley. Was promoted to First Lieutenant in 1862, and Captain in 1863. Was wounded and taken prisoner at Kelley's Ford; carried to Libby Prison; exchanged and honorably discharged 31st December, 1864. Captain Thayer was three and one-half years in the service and in thirty-one engagements. And these are samples only of that time. Could the history of those great armies be fully known, no doubt many another Franklin boy who had migrated to some other State could parallel such examples from his own career. At any rate we feel satisfied that our town will have no occasion to be ashamed of the rebellion record of her sons in the days of the nation's need, and it has a right, not to say a duty, to erect some memorial monument or hall in honor of its children's patriotism. What better than a fire-proof building for its library, town documents and memorials of the past century, and tablets of its fallen soldiers!

#### THE CITIZEN SOLDIERY

of the town deserves a paragraph, not so much for any important public service it ever rendered, as for the enthusiasm it always excited among the boys of half a century ago. The contour of the town was such that two military companies could far more conveniently muster than one. These were called the North and South companies, and a degree of rivalry obtained between them, sometimes for a superiority of appearance and drill, and sometimes, as the public sentiment inclined, for superiority of neglect. The May trainings were the times for public comparison — when both companies manoeuvred at opposite ends of the Common, and marched around Davis Thayer's store and Dr. Emmon's house,

and the voices of the captains could be heard through the whole distance. But the spirit which animated the troops in those days evaporated before the next morning.

Training day was usually enlivened by a troop of cavalry, enrolled mostly within the town, which pranced and curveted among the sweet fern at the south end of the Common. But the Franklin Artillery struck the deepest awe into boyish hearts. It included many members from Wrentham, but its gun-house, cannons, tumbril and horse furniture were on Franklin Common, and here it paraded according to law. The dark blue and slightly-trimmed uniforms, the Bonaparte *chapeaus*, with their long black, red-tipped plumes, the flashing long swords, the slow march to the dirge-like "Roslyn Castle" as the lumbering brass four-pounders were drawn over the tufts of grass and bushes by drag-ropes angling outwards like wild geese lines reversed, impressed us with some idea of the solemnity of war, and fascinated all into always following the artillery. But the height of excitement was reached when the Franklin Cadets appeared. They had been drilling for weeks behind the powder-house hill under a Captain Partridge, from some military school, and believed themselves to be the *élite* of the militia. At length they emerged on the muster-field, with white pantaloons, blue coats abundantly buttoned and silver laced, black, shining leather caps, and long, white, perpendicular plumes, just tipped with black, and new, glinting muskets. Under the command of Nathan Cleveland, their first captain, afterwards colonel, they manœuvred and marched and involved themselves with such admirable precision as to attract continual reinforcements so long as any military fervor beat in the public bosom. Their line of captains included many of the now prominent citizens of the town. The Franklin Cadets, the Wrentham Guards, and the Bellingham Rifles, were the flower of the once Norfolk County Regiment.

Probably some part of Franklin's interest in military matters must be attributed to the singular adaptation of its broad Common to military display, which led to its frequent selection for regimental musters. Perhaps this chapter cannot close better than by a description of an old-time muster, from a frequent participant years ago. It may give the youth of to-day some taste of the great event of boy-life fifty years ago.

The muster was what the cattle show now is — the autumnal

festival, except that lines of uniformed men took the place of cattle and piles of vegetables. It occurred soon after the weight of the farm work was done and the workmen were ripe for a holiday.

The day before muster, a detailed squad of men marked out, by a long rope and with the heads of old axes, a straight and shallow furrow as a toe-line for the regiment, which they generally adhered to until afternoon. A boundary was also roped along the eastern side next the road, which marked the limit for spectators. On this side were groups of men building rough booths for the sale of eatables and drinkables, gewgaws, etc., to the crowd of the coming day. It was late at night sometimes before all was ready.

With the earliest daylight came noisily-driven teams into town, bringing soldiers and civilians, lads and lasses, from far and near. Tents and marquees were hastily pitched around the meeting-house and on the west side of the Common. Luncheon boxes and extra garments were stowed in them, guards set, and at 6 o'clock the long roll from a score or less of kettle-drums called the companies together to the turmoil of the day. Drill, evolutions and marchings displayed the skill of the captains, and astonished the fast-gathering crowds until 9 o'clock, when, at the vociferous shouting of the adjutant, the musical squads headed their companies up to the toe-line already described. The musicians then gathered at the head of the regiment near the gun-house to receive the colonel and his staff whenever they should emerge from the tavern near at hand. On their appearance and reception the wings wheeled into an enclosing square, with the officers in the center, and the chaplain, on horseback, prayed for the country and the protection of life and limb. On straightening out again there came the march of the single fife and drum down and back the length of the line, the official inspection, the regimental manoeuvrings and dodging the line of guards by the spectators. At 1 o'clock came dinner in tent, booth, on the grass, anywhere, hilariously moistened — possibly with venerable cider at least, until at 3 o'clock a big gun and a solemn cavalcade of colonel and staff with chaplain and surgeon called the scattered bands into line for the grand *finale* — the sham fight. This used to be a great exploit of strategic skill. Sometimes the infantry

attempted to capture the guns of the artillery ; sometimes, divided into two equal battalions, they furiously bombarded each other ; sometimes a tribe of pretentious Indians rushed from behind Dr. Pratt's barn with original and indescribable yells upon the cavalry only to be ignominiously chased back to their invisible wigwams. Sometimes the whole regiment formed a hollow square with a cannon at each corner in defense of their officers, and banged away at unseen and unanswering enemies, while the cavalry ran in all possible directions to repel imaginary sallies. Trumpets blared, drums rattled, horses reared and snorted, children screamed, ram-rods, forgotten in the hurried loading, hurtled through the poplars, till a cloud of villainous saltpetre enwrapped in suffocating folds soldiers, spectators, booths and landscape, and until cartridge-boxes were emptied and military furore was satiated. The hub-bub subsided about 5 o'clock into an occasional pop from tardy muskets, and the wounded — by pocket pistols — were picked up in the booths and along the poplars, and the crowd took up their winding way — to some very winding — to their supperless homes. And so ended the autumnal muster, but we boys thought it a great day.

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF THE

PROFESSIONAL SONS AND SONS-IN-LAW OF FRANKLIN.

The following roll of natives and of those who have married natives of this town and have devoted themselves to some liberal profession has been made up by a most diligent and wide inquiry, assisted by Rev. W. M. Thayer, of the Centennial Committee. It is believed to be as nearly complete as it can now be made—deficiencies must be referred to defects of records or failure of letters. It is an honorable roll of which Franklin may justly be proud. In the ratio of population few towns can show a longer list of collegiates. It certainly illustrates the impulse which one energetic intellect can give to the young minds of a town. Many of them have directly attributed their first appetite for learning and their first encouragement to seek it from the words of the half-century pastor of the one church then in town.

It is admitted that Franklin has exerted a wide influence in the land through her educated children. May their power for the true and the good never diminish, but increase in width and depth, so that it may continue to be said of her coming sons, with increasing satisfaction and larger numbers, "this man was born there."

GEORGE A. ADAMS, Esq., son of Gardner and Eunice R. Adams, was born in Springfield 3d April, 1850, but returned soon after to Franklin, where he attended school and in 1869 graduated at Dean Academy. He then entered Tuft's College, but in consequence of a serious fall was obliged to remit study for a year. In 1871 and 1872 he was able to teach school in Goddard Seminary, Barre, Vt., where he began the study of law. In 1873, May 8th, he was admitted to the bar at Dedham, and in July opened an office in Attleboro, where he now is in his profession.

Mr. Adams married, November, 1872, Clara L., daughter of Horace M. Gowen, of Franklin. They have two children.

Rev. JAMES ADAMS was son of Dea. James and Sarah (Bacon) Adams, and was born in South Franklin 21st October, 1800. After the usual public school training he studied Latin a few months and at 16 entered a printing office in Dedham. About 1819 he went to Portland, Me., where, finding no room in a Congregational church, he attended and became interested in the Episcopal service. In 1836 he removed to Burlington, N. J., and edited the *Burlington Gazette* until 1839, which paper was largely instrumental during that time in carrying the State for the Whigs. Meanwhile, under the direction of Bishop Doane, he studied for the ministry and was ordained by the Bishop 25th April, 1839. He devoted himself henceforth chiefly to the upbuilding of feeble churches in New Jersey and Connecticut. He preached in Flemington, Alexandria, and Lambertville about ten years. Thence he went to Cohoes, N. J., until 1851. Then was assistant rector in Elizabeth. He next removed to New York, where he aided in establishing the "House of Mercy," and acted as chaplain on Blackwell's Island until he fell into a severe sickness. On recovery Mr. Adams went to Redding, Conn., for two years; to Bethany until 1858, thence to Tariffville for two years, and thence to Poquonock, where he died as rector of St. James church 24th October, 1869. It was said of him—"faithful unto death."

Rev. Mr. Adams married, 28th November, 1827, Miss Caroline Brooks of Milton, Mass., who died at Lambertville, N. J., 10th May, 1845. They had five children, only two of whom are now living—Ellen Winslow Adams of Hyde Park, and Julia Frances Adams of Medway.

Prof. ALDIS SAMUEL ALLEN, M. D., was born in Franklin 13th November, 1803, and was the oldest child of Dea. Samuel and Sarah Wood (Aldis) Allen. Some of his early years were spent in the family of Dr. Emmons, where he received his first impulse towards a collegiate education. In the family of Dr. Ide he became a Christian, and began the study of Latin with Dr. Ide. He completed his preparation by two years' study in Phillips' Academy, and entered Yale College, graduating in 1827. He was teacher of music, gymnastics and penmanship one year in Dr. Sereno Dwight's Gymnasium, and then studied medicine with Dr.

Smith of New Haven. After graduation as M. D. he settled in Bridgeport, Conn. In 1833 he went to Jacksonville, Ill., where he died of a fever, 9th August, 1833. He had the character of a perfect Christian gentleman, and his death was a triumph of the Christian religion which he professed.

Prof. Allen married Eliza M. Weeks of Jamaica, L. I. Of his children we are not informed.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ALLEN was son of George and Eunice (Haven) Allen, and born in Franklin. His mother was a daughter of Asa and Eunice (Aldis) Haven, and was born in Franklin 17th March, 1773. The family resided in several places, and finally settled in Albany, N. Y., where the father died young, leaving only the above son. B. Franklin went to live with his relative, Hon. Asa Aldis, in St. Albans, Vt. He fitted for college in the academy there, and graduated at Brown University, 1817. After graduation he became Principal of Greenwich Academy, but died at the end of his first year. His intended marriage with Miss Lucia Richmond of Providence was never consummated, and his promise of usefulness, so suddenly cut off, was a great grief to his friends.

Judge ASA ALDIS,\* son of Nathan and Sarah (Metcalf) Aldis, was born in Franklin, 14th April, 1770. His mother was a daughter of Jonathan Metcalf. She died, leaving only this child, a little over two years old. His father was a merchant in Franklin, but was preparing to move to Boston when he died, in May, 1775, thus leaving Asa an orphan of five years. His father was accused of being a Tory, which his intimacy with a British officer and his removal to Boston, seemed to justify, but which his friends, Dr. Emmons in particular, would not admit. He probably dreaded disturbances and took no side in the coming strife. The people, however, on his death, demanded the confiscation of his property, and a mob broke open his store and seized the goods, but they found no account books, notes, or papers of value to confirm or dispel their suspicions.

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\* It was only upon particular request that the following has been furnished from a sketch, prepared for the family alone by Mrs. Judge Kellogg of Brattleboro, Vt., daughter of Judge Aldis. The light it casts upon the olden times will justify its full quotation.

Judge Stephen Metcalf, the brother of Asa's mother, took the guardianship of the lad, and placed him with a sister of his mother, the wife of Rev. Daniel Pond, in Medway. This family were warm Republicans, and his aunt had made a vow, when the tea was thrown overboard, that another cup of tea should never be made in her house. The only Boston paper taken in their neighborhood came to Mr. Pond's, and on its weekly arrival all gathered at his house in the evening to hear it read. They sat in the large kitchen — little Asa on the dye-tub on one side of the fire-place, while his uncle read. The listeners had relatives and friends in the war, and the news was commented upon and deeply pondered in this as in all New England homes.

One illustrative incident of the spirit of the lad. A certain cooper alone disapproved of Washington. For weeks he had said, "Washington should have been here — he should have been there — he was always doing wrong." No one ever replied. One night, when they were all gone, the little boy stretched up to his aunt saying, "Aunt, why don't they put out Washington and put in cooper White?"

Another anecdote illustrates the spirit of the household. On a dark, windy, rainy November night, as they were all sitting around the fire, there was a knock on the outside door. On opening, there stood a man belated, and it was some ways to a tavern. Attracted by their light, he had stopped to ask for a night's lodging. "Certainly, we can keep you," said both Mr. and Mrs. Pond, for they were hospitable. "Have you a horse?" "Yes." And out went Mr. Pond and a boy to take care of the horse. The stranger was given a seat by the fire. On learning that he had had no supper, Mrs. Pond and her daughter prepared the table, and Mrs. Pond was soon cooking some meat over the fire, when the conversation took a religious turn. In reply to something he said, she answered, "But Moses, in describing the plague of Egypt, said —" "What of that," says he, "Moses was nothing but a conjuror!" Mrs. Pond looked around at him and asked, "What did you say about Moses?" "I said Moses was nothing but a conjuror, and he was not." Off came the pan from the fire. "I can cook you no supper; no man who disbelieves the Bible and calls Moses, the servant of the Lord, a conjuror, can stay in my house over night." Just then Mr. Pond came in from feeding the horse. She repeated

the conversation, adding, "we cannot keep him." "No," said Mr. Pond, "I will get your horse." The man begged to stay, but to no purpose, and he had to go on his journey in the dark. It was in such a family Asa passed his childhood and laid the foundation of his character. He afterward said of them he never knew them to do a thing they believed to be wrong.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, and when the Independence of the States had been acknowledged, Judge Metcalf received a request from a Mr. Amory of Boston, to bring Mr. Nathan Aldis' son to Boston. He went, and was advised to ascertain from the General Court, then in session, what disposition was to be made of Mr. Aldis' property. On the declaration of the lawyer, Mr. Sullivan, that Mr. Aldis died one year and two months before the Declaration of Independence, and that no evidence existed that he had ever said or done anything against the cause or measures of the revolutionary party, the court decided unanimously that there was no law that would warrant the confiscation of the estate, and that it should be restored to the son. After the decision Mr. Amory informed Judge Metcalf that he had just received Mr. Aldis' papers, which were supposed to be lost. Capt. John Goldsbury,\* foreseeing the tumultuous times coming, had gone, on Mr. Aldis' death, privately to Franklin, and secured the papers, and, unknown to his relatives, had sent them to England. These papers had been just sent back.

An anecdote is connected with these papers illustrative of the times. Judge Metcalf said to Asa, as they examined them, "I think Dea. Slocum owed your father several hundred dollars, but I find no note. Go and ask the deacon." He did so. "Yes," said the deacon, "I owed your father, and you will find the note among the papers." Still they could not find it. "Well," replied the deacon, "if you don't find it, I owed it, and shall pay you all the same." About two years after Asa received a letter from Capt. Goldsbury in Halifax, N. S., wishing to see him. He went at once to his father's old friend, who told him much about his father, and the difficulties he had in getting the papers in Frank-

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\* Capt. Goldsbury had been one of the chief men in Franklin, but from sympathy with the British side had gone out of the way of the coming strife for liberty to Nova Scotia, where he remained afterwards till his death.

lin. Inquiring after Dea. Slocum, he took a paper from his pocket-book, and handing it to young Aldis, said, "Asa, Deacon Slocum saved my life. I wanted to see a young lady friend of mine near Franklin. We had not evacuated Boston. Washington was encamped at Cambridge, and I could get to Franklin only by crossing through his lines. I forged a pass which took me through, but they soon discovered Washington's signature to be false, and sent a detachment after me as a spy. I was no spy, but I fled for my life. I hid three days in the woods. Dea. Slocum fed me, and then secreted me in his own house till I got off to Boston. When I saw this note against him among the papers, I took it out and kept it. It is the only paper I ever withheld. I vowed that if *you* got the money I would bring you the note, but if that cursed government got it, they should never have a penny from the deacon!"

Mr. and Mrs. Pond and their daughter were now dead, and during the settlement of the estate Asa made his home mostly with his uncle, Ebenezer Aldis, in Mendon. He always acknowledged this period — from 15 to 19 — to have been the wild period of his life, when he went for fun everywhere. His aversion to ardent spirits saved him. He said Dr. Emmons never gave him up, but passed many an hour with him, talking of his parents and other things interesting to a youth. At 19 he applied to Rev. Caleb Alexander, of Mendon — afterwards a celebrated teacher in Fairfield, N. Y. — to fit him for college; but he hesitated on account of his then reckless and disputatious reputation. But Dr. Emmons urged him and he took young Aldis into his family, and when he left Mr. Alexander said he never had a more obedient pupil. Aldis' gratitude to Dr. Emmons lasted through life.

Asa Aldis was graduated at Brown University, in 1796, and studied law with Judge Howell of Providence. After a short residence in Chepachet, R. I., he was married, and in 1802 removed to St. Albans, Vt., where he entered upon his profession with characteristic zeal. In the years of the embargo, and during the War of 1812, he was a zealous supporter of Jefferson's and Madison's administrations. This was the unpopular side in northern Vermont, but his violent political opponents were often his warm personal friends. On one point he was almost alone. He would never permit one dollar's worth of *smuggled* goods to be brought

into his house, and even refused to be retained by his old clients in any case, if they were smugglers. But while he was the Government's supporter and adviser, he refused all office and gave his advice gratuitously. At the close of the War of 1812, he was persuaded to accept the office of Chief Justice of Vermont, but declined a second election, in spite of the entreaties even of political opponents.

Judge Aldis was a supporter of John Quincy Adams, especially in his anti-slavery sentiments. Having joined an abolition society while in Providence, he adhered to its principles in its darkest day, and was among the leaders of the liberty party in his State.

After 50 years of age he professed religion and was confirmed in the Episcopal church by Bishop Griswold. He was also an especial friend of schools. Of his integrity it was said, after his death, that no one could say that he had wronged one man. He died 16th October, 1847, aged 77 years. He left at least one son, Hon. Asa O. Aldis, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and a daughter, the wife of his successor, Judge L. C. Kellogg, of Vermont. The view on the following page will be interesting as a relic of ante-revolutionary days. The building on the right is the "old store" already mentioned. The Aldis homestead is on the left. Both are to-day as the photograph reflects them.

J. FRANCIS ATWOOD, M. D., son of Jonathan Frank and Anna M. (Pond) Atwood, was born in Franklin 20th August, 1846. In 1864 he entered Phillip's Exeter Academy, thence entered Harvard University, graduating in 1869. He passed immediately into the medical school and received his degree in 1873. By competitive examination he obtained first choice of places in the Boston City Hospital, and was appointed Ophthalmic Lecturer. After a year's service Dr. Atwood went to Europe for further study, in London and Paris and in the University of Vienna. He returned in 1874 and opened an office in St. Paul, Minn., where he is now surgeon in the Minnesota Eye and Ear Infirmary.

Dr. Atwood married, 20th September, 1876, Emma, daughter of Samuel Colhoun, Esq., of St. Paul.

HENRY METCALF BACON was born in the north part of Franklin, 24th January, 1854. He is the son of George W. and Julia Adams (Brooks) Bacon. He fitted for college one year at Chase & Scott's Academy, Philadelphia, and one year at the Chelsea

High School. He graduated at Amherst College, 1876. Since graduation he has been engaged in school teaching, and is at this date in Armstrong, Kansas, at the head of a school.

Rev. ABIAH RICHARDSON BAKER, D. D., was born in Franklin, 30th August, 1805, and was the son of Captain David and Jemima (Richardson) Baker. Becoming a Christian quite early, he fitted for college in Medway and at Bradford, and entered Amherst College, whence he was graduated 1830. He opened a school in Med-



THE ALDIS HOMESTEAD AND STORE.

way village, which gained quite a distinction, but left it after two years for Andover Seminary. After graduation here in 1835, he preached in Ware, West Hartford, Conn., and at Albany, N. Y., and finally was settled in Medford, 25th April, 1838. In his ministry of ten years he received 200 persons into the church. After his dismissal, in 1849, he devoted himself chiefly to building up new or feeble churches, as in Lynn and South Boston.

Dr. Baker, soon after leaving Medford, engaged in Sunday-

school work. He published a series of question books on the Assembly's Catechism, or "The Catechism tested by the Bible." This has been translated into six languages, and was used in the Sandwich Islands by order of the government, and in the mission schools of Mt. Lebanon. Half a million copies have been sold. He also prepared a "Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount," in four octavo volumes, besides writing many magazine articles. He received the degree of D. D. in 1870, from Austin College.

Dr. Baker married, 1st October, 1835, Harriet Newell, daughter of Rev. Leonard Woods, D. D., of Andover, and had six sons, two of whom are in the ministry, two in process of preparation, and one a physician. The eldest died in infancy. Dr. Baker himself died, 30th April, 1876, in his 71st year, leaving a wide circle of friends to lament his decease.

DAVID ERASTUS BAKER is the son of Erastus Emmons and Abby M. (Bacon) Baker, and was born in Franklin 30th March, 1857. After a public school education he entered the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, and graduated in the full course of study, 1878. He is at present teaching a public school in his native town.

Rev. MORTIMER BLAKE, D. D., son of Ira and Laura (Mowry) Blake, of Franklin, was born in Pittston, Me., 10th June, 1813, but removed with his parents to Franklin in his fifth year. He attended Day's Academy, Wrentham, and the Classical Institute at Medway village, also studied privately with Rev. E. Smalley of Franklin; graduated at Amherst College, 1835, whence also he received the degree of D. D. in 1868. After graduation he opened an academy in Franklin, which he taught three years, until called to the Principalship of Hopkins Academy in Hadley. He resigned this position after one year, to enter the ministry, for which he had previously prepared with Rev. Dr. Smalley, and been approbated by the Mendon Association. He was ordained over the church in Mansfield, 4th December, 1839; dismissed in November, 1855, to take the pastorate of the Winslow church, Taunton, 4th December following. He still remains among his own people.

Dr. Blake married Harriet Louisa Daniels, daughter of Joseph and Susan (Fisher) Daniels of Franklin, and has four children, two sons and two daughters. Percy M., for four years Civil Engineer

in United States Army, is now pursuing sanitary engineering; Lucien I. graduated at Amherst College, 1877, since has been Principal of the Franklin High School; one daughter married Bradford F. Morse of Taunton.

The portrait of Dr. Blake was procured and is prefixed as a frontispiece, by vote of the Centennial Committee.

Rev. NATHANIEL CHAPMAN, a son-in-law of Franklin, is a native of Mt. Vernon, Me. He did not graduate at college, as we can learn, but took a private course of study and was ordained as pastor of the Congregational church in Bristol, Me., 15th September, 1824. He was dismissed 7th February, 1833, and installed at Camden, Me., 14th May, 1835. Since then we have gained no further information.

Mr. Chapman married, June, 1823, Sally, daughter of Robert and Olive (Richardson) Pond, of Franklin, and has had four children.

Dr. GILBERT CLARK, son of Nathan and Nancy (Payson) Clark, was born in South Franklin, 30th December, 1823. He was educated for his profession in the Eclectic Medical College, of Philadelphia. After receiving his degree, he settled in Warren, R. I., where he died 24th March, 1874.

Dr. Clark married Miss Eliza Whiting, but left no children.

Rev. JAMES ROYAL CUSHING, a son-in-law of this town, was born in Salisbury, N. H., 23d November, 1800. His youth was spent in Thetford, Vt., under the ministry of Rev. Dr. Burton. He studied his theological course in Bangor Seminary, and was first settled in Boxboro, Mass., afterwards installed, 10th June, 1835, as pastor of the Congregational church in East Haverhill, where he remained until 1844. He next served as city missionary in Boston until his settlement in Wells, Me., where he labored successfully for ten years. In 1854 he became acting pastor of a new church in East Taunton, where he remained seven years, during which time he secured the means to build their present neat and commodious meeting-house. In 1861 he removed to North Rochester for seven years and thence to the Cape, where he supplied successively the churches in Cotuit, Marston's Mills and Waquoit, until his age and ill-health compelled him to retire to his original home in Haverhill, where he now resides.

Mr. Cushing married for his second wife, 14th November, 1843,

Unity Myra Daniels, daughter of Joseph and Susan (Fisher) Daniels, a native of Franklin, who still lives.

Rev. HENRY METCALF DANIELS was born in Franklin 16th May, 1824, and is the son of Henry and Mary (Metcalf) Daniels. Attended school at Franklin Academy and engaged some time in teaching, farming, etc. Entered Chicago Theological Seminary in 1858, graduating in 1861. He was very soon after, June 25th, installed pastor of the Congregational church, Winnebago, Ill., where he remained until 1875. With patriotic impulse he accepted a commission from the A. H. M. S., and went to Dallas, Texas, where he is now, representing the polity of the Pilgrims with hopeful success.

Mr. Daniels married, 17th March, 1844, Susan Nye, daughter of Caleb T. and Susan (Cleaveland) Nye, of Franklin. She died 27th October, 1873, leaving one daughter, now Mrs. George E. Mariner, of Sparta, Wis. Mr. Daniel's present wife was Mrs. Fanny B. Nye, formerly of Freeport, Me.

Rev. WILLIAM HAVEN DANIELS, youngest son of Henry and Mary (Metcalf) Daniels, was born in Franklin, 18th May, 1836, and was educated in Wilbraham (Mass.) Academy and the Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn. After the usual four years' course in theology in the Rock River Conference he was admitted, in 1872, as preacher in the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Daniels has performed pastoral service in Jencksville, Mass., St. Johns, N. B., Normal, Chicago, and River Forest, Ill. He was also for a time Professor of Belles Lettres in the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Ill., General Agent of the Chicago Theological Seminary, Librarian of the Northwestern University, at Evanston, Ill.

Mr. Daniels has lately turned himself chiefly to literary work, and has issued some volumes, such as "D. L. Moody and His Work," "The Temperance Reform and its Great Reformers," the former of which has widely circulated and been translated into French and Welsh. He married a daughter of Dea. Samuel P. Merrick of Chicopee, in 1861, September 11th, and has one child, a daughter. He resides at present at River Forest, near Chicago.

WILLIS GEORGE DANIELS was born in Franklin, 22d October, 1806, and was the son of Joseph and Susan (Fisher) Daniels. Becoming early converted to the gospel, he turned himself to a

preparation for the ministry. He fitted for college at Day's Academy, in Wrentham, and entered Amherst College in 1828, but ill-health compelled him to leave in his Sophomore year, and he died of consumption at his home, 15th January, 1830, to the great disappointment of his family and friends.

OLIVER DEAN, M. D., was born in Franklin, 18th February, 1783, and was the son of Seth and Edna (Pond) Dean. After learning English branches in the town schools he studied Latin in the Framingham Academy, and Greek with Rev. Dr. Crane of Northbridge. He then began the study of medicine with Dr. James Mann, of Wrentham, but completed it with Dr. W. Ingalls of Boston, and received his degree of M. D. from the Massachusetts Medical Society, in 1809. He practiced in Boston until 1812, when he removed to Medway, but his health broke down under his labors here, and in 1817 he left his profession to assume the superintendency of the Medway Cotton Mills, which had been built in 1804, burnt in October, 1807, and re-built in 1809, by Dr. Abijah Richardson, Luther Metcalf, William Felt, and others. Dr. Dean held this office for nine years. In 1826 he was chosen Superintendent of the then young Amoskeag, N. H., Manufacturing Company, and continued there for eight years. Having accumulated a fortune by skillful management, he retired to a farm in Framingham from 1834 to 1844. From the latter date until 1851 he resided in Boston. He next purchased a portion of the farm of the deceased Dr. Emmons and made Franklin his home until his death.

Dr. Dean devoted his last years chiefly to plans for the education of youth, which resulted in the founding of the academy appropriately bearing his name, and which his large wealth enabled him amply to endow.

Dr. Dean first married Caroline Francoeur of Wrentham, resident in Boston. She died 27th October, 1866, and he married, in 1868, Mrs. Louisa C. Hames of Wrentham, who still lives. He left no children.

Hon. ALEXANDER DEWITT, whom Franklin has a double reason for claiming as a son-in-law, as his wife belonged to this town, was born in New Braintree, 2d April, 1798, one of a family of nine children. His parents were too poor to give him any opportunities of education, and he was compelled to do such small work







*Oliver Dian.*



among his neighbors as he could find. At 15 he went to Dudley as apprentice in a small wool and cotton factory, where he staid five years. In 1818 he came to Franklin and was employed in Dr. N. Miller's thread factory at River End. In 1819 he leased a larger mill in Foxboro. Here he peddled his own thread in a wagon from place to place, carrying his food with him. Conquering his natural pride against such a seemingly begging expedition, when he found that he must urge his own wares to effect any sales, he pushed himself more boldly and soon secured a circle of trade for all the goods he could manufacture.

In 1820, June 5th, he married Mary, daughter of William Makepeace of Franklin, and in conjunction with his father-in-law, who built a mill, carried on the thread business in Unionville in this town. In 1825 he removed to Oxford, where, with three of his brothers, he built the then largest thread-mill in the United States. Prosperity attended these ventures, and Mr. DeWitt, now Colonel, rose not only in wealth but in popular regard. He became Representative of the town in 1830, State Senator in 1842 and 1844, and a member of the House of National Representatives in the Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth Congresses. In his later life he has been blind. Colonel DeWitt has just died at his home in Oxford, 13th January, 1879, leaving a widow but no children.

Rev. NATHAN TYRELL DYER, the latest of Franklin's sons-in-law, is a native of South Braintree, being born there 1st January, 1852, and the son of Jacob Storr and Ann Maria Thayer (Holbrook) Dyer. After passing through the town High School and Lawrence Academy at Groton, he entered Dartmouth College, graduating thence in 1873. Next he passed through Andover Theological Seminary and was graduated in 1876. He was installed over the First church, Middleboro, 31st July, 1878.

Mr. Dyer married, 4th June, 1878, Miss Harriet Mann, born in Franklin and daughter of William and Sarah Bacon (Metcalf) Mann, still residing in Franklin.

Hon. WILLIAMS EMMONS was the son of Rev. Nathanael and Martha (Williams) Emmons, and was born in Franklin 2d May, 1784; was graduated from Brown University 1805, in the class with Theron Metcalf, and was subsequently tutor for three years. In 1809 he opened a law office in Augusta, Me., where he continued

with distinguished success until 1836. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1833 and 1834, and Senator for Kennebec county in 1834 and 1835; was appointed Judge of Probate in 1841, which office he filled until 1848, when he removed to Hallowell to spend the remainder of his life in privacy. He died there 8th October, 1855.

Judge Emmons married, 24th May, 1813, Eunice, daughter of Judge Samuel S. Wilde of Boston. Judge Wilde was son of Daniel Wilde, and his wife was daughter of Dea. Jezaniah Sumner, both of Taunton and both noted musicians, the latter being the author of the "Ode on Science." Mrs. Emmons died 1821, leaving two daughters, one of whom married Rev. Benjamin Tappan, Jr., of Augusta. Judge Emmon's second wife was Lucy, daughter of Dr. Benjamin Vaughn of Hallowell.

ELISHA FAIRBANKS, Esq., was born in Franklin, 6th June, 1771, in the house, afterwards, of Hon. Willis Fisher, and was son of Capt. Asa and Sarah Fairbanks. He graduated at Brown University 1791, and began practice of law in Gloucester, R. I. He soon after removed to Hopkinton, and thence to Keene, N. H. Here he became deranged and put an end to his own life about 1820. He was never married.

THEODORE PARKER FARR, son of Parker Russell and Abby Eliza (Alexander) Farr, was born in Franklin, 19th December, 1855. He prepared for college at the Dean Academy and graduated, the valedictorian of his class, from Tuft's College, 1878. He is now teaching school in Sheldonville, Wrentham.

Prof. ALEXANDER METCALF FISHER, son of Caleb and Sally (Cushing) Fisher, was born in Franklin 22d July, 1794. He was of small and very slender physique, yet of such mental quickness that he graduated from Yale College in 1813 at 19, and at the head of his class. One of his classmates says of his junior year, "It astonished us all to see with what ease he traveled through conic sections, spherical geometry and trigonometry; how completely he supplied defective demonstrations in the text-book, and occasionally detected fallacies in the author and demonstrated the incorrectness of his conclusions. It seemed almost sublime to see one of an age but a single remove from childhood, of a figure so disproportioned to the magnitude of his subject, and of a mould so frail and delicate, march with such ease and steadiness over these

heights which stood in this part of our path." — (*American Journal of Science*, V. 367.) After his graduation he spent a year with Dr. Emmons, going through the usual course of theological topics. Dr. E. said of him, "He is the ablest man in theological argument I ever met." Another called him "head and shoulders above all others." He next went to Andover, but ill-health compelled him to relinquish books and retire to his father's farm. He was, however, appointed Tutor in Yale College in 1815, and, notwithstanding the fears of his friends, entered upon his duties at the fall term. His favorite studies apparently invigorated his health, and in two years he was chosen adjunct Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. On the death of President Dwight and the promotion of Prof. Day to the Presidency, Fisher was elected to his place in the chair of this professorship. His devotion and success as a teacher and lecturer were striking. Nothing escaped his attention. Some philosophical papers of his at this time attracted public notice. Especially an article on "Musical Temperament," in *Silliman's Journal*, vol. 1, art. 1, was regarded in America and Europe as a most profound and exhaustive discussion of that difficult topic. This article was written within two weeks, as a relief from severe nervous disturbance. "He was a wonderfully rapid, exact and methodical writer, and marked by originality of thought, delicacy of taste, and determination of purpose." As a sample, suffering once bitterly under a toothache, he wrote out the pros and cons, balanced them, and went to a dentist. The removal of the tooth being a less objection than he had computed, he had a second offender extracted as an equipoise in the argument.

But the high hopes of his career were suddenly destroyed by his shipwreck on the coast of Ireland. Desirous of learning the modes of instruction in Europe, he, with sixty others, sailed from New York in the packet Albion, 1st April, 1822. When near Kinsale, April 22, a gale struck the ship, carried her masts, and dashed her upon the rocks. Only one passenger escaped. Prof. Fisher was last seen in the cabin examining the barometer.

Prof. Fisher was engaged to be married to Catharine, daughter of Rev. L. Beecher, D. D., but the waves forbade forever the consummation.

A white marble slab stands in the Franklin Cemetery to mark the fact of his death, with this inscription :—

S. M.  
ALEXANDRI METCALF FISHER  
COLLEGII YALENSIS,  
Prinio Alumni, deinde Tutoris,  
Postia Matheskos et Philosophiae Naturalis  
Professor;  
Qui  
Ingenio capaci et acerrimo judicio  
Pruditus,  
in studia doctrinæ adeo incubuit  
Ut cùm adhuc intra juventutis annos  
Ejus versaretur aetas,  
Propè summum literarum fastigium  
Altigisset.  
His insuper laudibus  
Cacteras, quae virum bonum commendat,  
Virtutes,  
Comitatem,  
Benevolentiam,  
Morum Probitatem,  
Fidem in officiis fungendis maximam,  
Et summum Dei reverentiam  
Addiderat.  
Et, cùm amore literarum  
Et studio alias regiones misendi ductus,  
In Europam navigaret,  
Ad oras Hiberniae.  
Eheu! tristi naufragio  
Perit;  
Die XXII Aprilis, anno Saeclo M.DCCC.XXII.  
Aetatis XXVII.

On the obverse side :—

Thy grave, O Fisher, is the rolling flood ;  
Thy urn, the rock eternal reared by God !  
Yet near thy home, raised by affection's hand  
To speak thy name, this simple stone shall stand,  
How dark the scene, till Faith directs on high  
Beyond these orbs that charmed thy youthful eye ;  
There now thy noble mind expanding glows  
In floods of light, nor pain nor darkness knows ;  
Youth, Genius, Knowledge, Virtue, pass away  
From Earth's dim shores, to Heaven's eternal day.

Rev. CHARLES RICHMOND FISHER was the youngest son of Daniel C. and Betsey (Wood) Fisher, and was born in Franklin Sept. 17, 1819. Young Fisher left home at 13 to learn the book trade, as clerk in William Marshall's store, Providence. Here, attending Grace church with the family in which he resided, he

became personally interested in religion, and was admitted by Bishop Griswold to that church, then under the rectorship of Rev. John A. Clark, now Bishop of Rhode Island. His new views turned his thoughts to the ministry, and, assisted by friends, he commenced study at the Franklin Academy. In 1838 he entered Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., graduating in 1842 in the same class with Rev. Drs. Gallandet, Geer, and Olmstead.

While studying theology, after graduation, under Bishop Burgess, then rector of Christ church, he also spent much time as lay-reader in feeble and vacant parishes in the vicinity. He was ordained as Deacon by Bishop Brownell in 1845, and immediately began to officiate in St. Marks, New Britain, Conn. Afterwards he went to Cabotville, Mass., next to Hebron and Manchester, Conn. In 1847, June 9th, he was ordained as Priest. In 1850, December 2d, he was appointed by the Bishop as missionary to gather a church in the city of Hartford, Conn. He at first held meetings in a small and inconvenient hall; afterwards, as the congregation increased, in an old chapel. His labors were so prospered that a new building was erected and dedicated in June, 1855, called St. Pauls church. Around this church as his center, Mr. Fisher labored while he lived. He was the friend of the poor and the almoner of the gifts of the rich.

The newspaper of the day, the Hartford *Globe*, said of him: "The death of 'father' Fisher has spread a general gloom over our community. It is seldom that the demise of a man, however prominent or however highly esteemed, is so universally felt. He is missed everywhere, in and out of church, in the home and in the street, at prayers and in society, by the rich and—oh, how sincerely is he missed and honored by the poor!"

Mr. Fisher died 24th November, 1876, aged 57. He was stout and inclined to corpulence. Too stout for walking, he was obliged mostly to ride, indicating the end which came to him at last. While rising from his bed on the morning of his last day he said, "how well I have slept, how well I feel!" and suddenly fell back on the pillow dead.

During his ministry Mr. Fisher married 1,717 couples—one on the afternoon and another in the evening before his death. His funeral obsequies were attended by a crowd of people, and the sermon by Bishop Williams was printed.

Mr. Fisher married, 26th May, 1846, Miss Susan B. Griswold of Hartford, who with her three children — two sons and a daughter — live to mourn his death.

Hon. GEORGE FISHER, son of Joseph and Susan (Fisher) Fisher, was born 17th March, 1788, on the Maxey Fisher homestead, formerly called "Buck's Hill." He changed his early farm life for a mason's, and worked in Boston, where he saved his earnings until he could devote himself to study. He fitted for college with Rev. William Williams at West Wrentham, and by assistance from his brothers was enabled to graduate at Brown University in 1813. After a tour to the South for health, he entered the law office of Judge Gilbert of Hebron, Conn., completing his course with Messrs. Forman & Sabin, at Onondaga, N. Y. He afterwards settled in Oswego. In 1828 was elected to Congress, but was supplanted in his seat by Hon. Silas Wright, Jr. He then left the law and engaged in the flouring business. Becoming wealthy, he spent several years in Europe for the education of his children. On his return he became President of the N. W. Insurance Company, residing most of the time in New York city, where he died 26th March, 1861.

Mr. Fisher married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Dan. Huntington of Hadley, whom he first met in a stage ride from Northampton to Troy, N. Y., whither she was going as a teacher in Miss Willard's school. They had six children. The four sons graduated at Cambridge, of whom two follow insurance in Chicago; another is a lawyer in Brooklyn, and the other a teacher in New York City.

Rev. GEORGE FISHER, son of Willard and Betsey R. Fisher, was born in Franklin 25th November, 1839. He began a collegiate course at Amherst College, but removed to Brown University, and finally had to relinquish colleges altogether on account of feeble health. The love of a literary career, however, abode in him. Having joined the Episcopol church in Waterford, N. Y., in 1866, he was ordained deacon in New York January, 1868, and admitted to the priesthood 12th June, 1870, by Bishop W. C. Doane, of Albany. In 1871, March 19, he became rector of the church of St. John the Evangelist, at Stockport, Columbia county, N. Y., where he still officiates.

Mr. Fisher married, 25th December, 1865, Miss Ellen E. H. Wright of Providence, R. I.



Geo. - Fisher



HON. JABEZ FISHER was born on "Buck's Hill," now King street, where Alfred Metcalf lives, 19th November, 1717, and was the youngest child of Ebenezer, Sr., and Abigail (Ellis) Fisher. Although without a liberal education, his strong common sense, clear intuition and inflexible integrity gained and kept the confidence of all men through the trying scenes of his long life, as the offices of trust to which he was elected clearly show.

He was a representative to the General Court of the Provincial government for many years, a member of the house of delegates at Salem, in 1775, where he was chosen one of the council of twenty-eight which acted as the executive during the opening Revolution, and of which were John and Samuel Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and John Hancock. He was considered the special watchman of the country part of Suffolk county, then including Franklin, and brought its forces into action. He was delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1788. He declined to be on the famous Committee of Safety, on account of his distance from Boston, but when the Provincial Congress was summoned to Watertown in midwinter, he walked all the way from Franklin on his snow-shoes through the woods. He was also on the Governor's Council from 1766 to 1772 and from 1776 to 1779, and in the Senate from 1780 to 1784, and again a Representative in 1786, 1798 and 1799. Being now 82 years old he withdrew from public affairs. But he continued to act as justice of the peace, to which he was first commissioned 8th November, 1775, until 1800; and officiated as deacon of the church from February, 1755, until he was unable to attend. He died 15th October, 1806, in his 89th year. A funeral sermon by Dr. Emmons (Works, vol. v., 496) ably sets forth his character and worth.

Deacon Fisher married, 5th March, 1740, Mary, daughter of John Adams, and had nine children.

LEWIS WHITING FISHER, Esq., was born in Franklin 29th December, 1792, and was the son of Hon. Lewis and Abigail Fisher. He graduated at Brown University, 1816, and studied law with Hon. J. J. Fiske, of Wrentham. He afterwards opened an office in Wrentham, where he lived until his death in 1827, April 20.

Esquire Fisher married Nancy, daughter of Luther and Betsey Fisher, 4th January, 1820. She is still living in Wrentham. They had four children, Lewis Emmons and Henry Jones, now deceased;

Elizabeth E. and George Park, who graduated B. U. 1847, and is now Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Yale College, and widely known as author of "History of the Reformation," "Beginnings of Christianity," and other works.

Hon. MILTON METCALF FISHER was the eldest son of Willis and Caroline (Fairbanks) Fisher, and great grandson of Hon. Jabez Fisher. He was born in the south part of Franklin 30th January, 1811. With a good common school education he began at 16 teaching district schools in Wrentham, Franklin, Medway, Westboro, Canton and Randolph. He prepared for college partly at Day's Academy, Wrentham, under Isaac Perkins, and at the Medway Classical Institute, A. R. Baker, Principal; entered Amherst College in 1832, but too close devotion to study, in a class containing Governor Bullock, Judge Kellogg of Vermont, and Hon. E. H. Kellogg of Pittsfield, compelled him to leave college and betake himself to journeying for recuperation, in which he was ultimately successful in a complete restoration. He then entered business in Westboro, where he filled several offices, but removed to Medway village in 1840, and there still resides. In Medway Mr. Fisher has held nearly every municipal office—he has been Justice of the Peace and Notary Public for Norfolk county, State Senator in 1859 and 1860, County Commissioner from 1863 to 1872, and deacon of the village church since 1840. He has been a trader, a straw-goods manufacturer, and is now insurance agent for several companies. He received the degree of A. M. in 1865 from Amherst College, and while the old chapel stands his name will be read on the inside clock-face that marks the tardy ones at prayers.

Mr. Fisher married, August 22, 1836, Eleanor B., eldest daughter of Hon. Luther Metcalf of Medway, by whom he has had nine children, four of whom are now living. One son is associated with him in business, the other is a prominent physician in Boston. Of the two daughters one is married in Amherst, the other is a teacher.

Prof. AUSTIN BARCLAY FLETCHER is a native of Mendon, where he was born 13th March, 1852, but removed to Franklin in 1860. After leaving the public schools in town, he spent three years in Dean Academy. The year 1869 was spent in Bryant & Stratton's Commercial School, Boston. The next year he was at Wilbraham Academy. He then entered Tuft's College in 1872, graduating in



M. M. Fisher



1876. The two years following were passed in Boston University, in the schools of law and of oratory. Since the spring of the current year he has been instructing in oratory, both in the theological department of the Boston University and also at Brown University, Providence. His intended profession is the law.

Mr. Fletcher is the son of Asa A. and Harriett E. (Durfee) Fletcher.

JAMES ROBERT GILMORE ("Edmund Kirke") was born in the south part of Franklin, called "under the hill," and was the son of Turner Gilmore, and grandson of William. In 1845 he entered the employ of Blanchard, Converse & Co., of Boston, and became their salesman in New York State for many years. At the same time he supported his mother in Boston, who had become insane. In 1856 he began business in New York city. This compelled him to often visit the South, and especially North Carolina, where he became so conversant with the people. He at this time originated a village in New Jersey, and built a house there in which he lived. But further particulars of his life are now inaccessible.

Mr. Gilmore's special fame rests upon his authorship. Being a rapid penman and a vivacious composer, his travels giving him a wide acquaintance with men and abundant incidents, he began the *Continental Magazine* in 1865, editing and publishing it himself. In this magazine his book "Among the Pines" first appeared as a serial, with the *nom de plume* of "Edmund Kirke." It attracted wide interest. He also wrote "My Southern Friends" and "Down in Tennessee," in which he describes a visit to Jefferson Davis in Richmond. He was also a party in the famous Greeley Conference with the rebels to effect a peace. His magazine articles have been numerous, and their fund of humor exhaustless. Of his family and present residence the writer knoweth not.

ELISHA HARDING, M. D., the son of Captain Asa and Comfort Harding, was born in Franklin 29th January, 1796. After fitting for college he graduated M. D. at Brown University, 1819. Immediately after his graduation he visited and finally settled in Maine. Dr. Harding married, 7th September, 1819, Amelia, daughter of Moses Hawes, and removed to Union, Me., where he became prominent as physician, and was in various civic offices until 1842, when he removed to Thomaston, where he died in 1850,

May 6th. He left one son, Nathaniel Miller Harding, of Rockland, Me., still resident in that city.

Rev. WALTER HARRIS, D. D., a son-in-law of this town, was born in Lebanon, Conn., 8th June, 1761, and was son of Nathaniel and Grace Harris. He graduated at Dartmouth College, 1787, and studied theology with Rev. Dr. Emmons, and was settled in Dumbarton, N. H., 26th August, 1789, where he died after forty years' successful service, 25th December, 1843. He married Jemima, daughter of Nathaniel Fisher of Franklin, and sister of Hon. Lewis Fisher, by whom he had seven children.

Dr. Harris was a remarkable man. Left an orphan at 16, he joined the Revolutionary army as fifer and served his three years. He next bought wild land near Dartmouth College and made himself a farm. Being converted by a sermon in town, he resolutely turned to the ministry, and by dint of evening study graduated with honors. Reading a sermon of Dr. Emmons', he determined to study theology with that man. He found him in Franklin, learned his theology, found a wife also in the congregation, and became one of the mighty men of the gospel in New Hampshire.

Rev. THOMAS HAVEN was the oldest living child of Rev. Elias Haven, the first minister of Franklin. He was born 28th August, 1744, and was graduated at Cambridge, 1765. He was installed 7th November, 1770, the first pastor of the Third, or South, church in Reading. But like his father he fell an early victim to consumption, dying in office, 7th May, 1782, in the 39th year of his age. His grave-stone says his death was "a most sorrowful event to the people of his charge," and adds—"a genius unfettered by bigotry, improved by study, ennobled by religion and by an evangelical temper, and enlarged by the most diffusive benevolence, has taken its flight to its native country."

Mr. Haven married Anna Bigelow, who died 10th June, 1776, aged 21.

Rev. ALFRED HAWES, a native of Holliston, married Clarissa Prentiss, daughter of Phineas and Abigail Partridge, of Franklin, and became a member of its list of sons. He fitted for college at the Franklin Academy and graduated at Brown University, 1841, and at Andover. He went West as a home missionary, and was soon settled in Marion, Ind., where he died in August, 1854. His wife soon followed him. Rev. H. W. Beecher, then in the same State,

said of him: "If we had a hundred men like Hawes, Indiana would soon blossom as the rose." He left four children, of whom is George W. Hawes, Professor of Mineralogy in the Yale Scientific School.

PETER HAWES, Esq., son of Joseph and Hannah (Fisher) Hawes, was born in Franklin 6th June, 1766. He graduated at Brown University 1790, and afterwards became an eminent lawyer in New York city. He was a devoted Christian and an elder in the brick church, Rev. Dr. Spring's.

Esquire Hawes died in early life, leaving two daughters, Susan and Matilda, both unmarried, and a son of whom we know not even his name.

Rev. ISAAC ERWIN HEATON was born in Franklin 6th October, 1808, and was the oldest son of Nathan and Sarah (Boon) Heaton. He is descended from Nathaniel and Mary Heaton, original settlers in Wrentham. His great grandfather Isaac took a farm within the southern limits of Franklin which his grandfather Isaac and his father Nathan occupied. The first printing press in this region was set up by his ancestral family, which issued many of the first editions of Dr. Emmons' sermons and other pamphlets. No relic of that old press is now known to exist.

Mr. Heaton fitted for college at Day's Academy and graduated B. U. 1832; studied theology with Rev. Dr. Ide, and was ordained as evangelist by the Mendon Association at North Wrentham 25th April, 1857. He went West as a home missionary to Wisconsin, where he was for a time the only Congregational minister in the State. He preached among the lead miners. He pioneered several churches into self-support. In 1856 he went to Fremont, Neb., where he still is. The church of seven members which he organized there now numbers forty-five with a good house of worship and a parsonage free of debt.

Mr. Heaton married Miranda N., daughter of Samuel Metcalf of Franklin, and has two daughters married.

Rev. ASA HIXON, who married Charlotte Baker, daughter of Capt. David Baker, was born in Medway 6th March, 1800, and was son of Asa and Polly (Turner) Hixon. He graduated at Brown University 1825, and at Auburn Theological Seminary; was ordained at Oakham 7th October, 1829, but was compelled to resign in 1832. After a long sickness he was able to remove to Franklin in 1845,

where he lived in comparative comfort for twelve years. In 1857 he returned to his first home in Medway, where he died 16th November, 1862, widely lamented as a clear thinker and conscientious Christian. He had but one child, David B. Hixon.

Rev. WILLIAM HOOPER, a native of Berwick, Me., born 1794, a missionary to the Choctaw Indians from 1820 to 1828, first at Mayhew, and then at Elliott stations, where he died 8th September, 1828. He became connected with Franklin by his second wife, Eliza Fairbanks, whom he married 28th March, 1828. Miss Fairbanks was daughter of Levi Fairbanks, born 25th February, 1798. Her father dying a few months after her birth she was taken into the family of Abijah Allen. After a common education in the King street school she went to Bradford Academy. Catching the missionary spirit at this seminary, she offered herself to the American Board as a teacher, in which vocation she had had some experience in Rhode Island. She started in September, 1827, with ten others, for the Choctaw Mission in Mississippi, where she first met and afterwards married Mr. Hooper the March following. On the removal of the Choctaws beyond the Mississippi, in 1831, Mrs. Hooper was released and returned to Franklin. She became afterwards the wife of Asa Partridge until his death, surviving him for some years. There were no children to either marriage.

Rev. SANFORD JABEZ HORTON, D. D., was born in Franklin 24th September, 1817. His father, Jabez Horton, was son of Comfort Horton of Rehoboth. His mother, Martha Miller, was daughter of Philip Miller also of Rehoboth, and sister of Dr. Nathaniel Miller of Franklin.

He prepared for college partly in Franklin Academy, and completed in the Worcester High School, graduated at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., in 1843, and studied theology at Alexandria, Va. He was ordained as deacon in the Protestant Episcopal church at Providence, R. I., August, 1845, and as priest in the same place in 1846. He became rector of the St. Andrews church, Providence, in the same year. From 1848 to 1852 was rector of Grace church, New Bedford, and for the ten years succeeding was rector of St. Paul's church in Windham, Conn. While in this position he was elected principal of the Episcopal Academy in Cheshire, New Haven county, Conn., which office he has held







S. J. Horton.



since 1862. This is an old institution, founded in 1794, and has a wide patronage from the denomination who have it in charge.

Dr. Horton received the degree of D. D. from Trinity College in 1869. He married, 14th September, 1846, Annie E. Allen, daughter of Paschal Allen of Warren, R. I. She died 13th September, 1850, leaving two children, Paschal and Nelson Leprelitte. He married as second wife, 20th April, 1852, Sarah S. Wickham, daughter of James S. Wickham, of Hartford, Conn., by whom he had two children — William Wickham, lately M. D. at New York University Medical College, and Mary Elizabeth, deceased. The son inherits the Miller talent for surgery.

Rev. SAMUEL HUNT was a son-in-law of Franklin, but for a full account see Ecclesiastical History, pastors of the Congregational church.

Rev. JACOB IDE, D. D., who married Mary, daughter of Rev. Dr. Emmons, was born in Attleboro in 1786, and was the son of Jacob and descendant of Nicholas Ide of Rehoboth, 1645. He was valedictorian of the class of 1809, Brown University, and also at Andover, 1812. Was ordained at West Medway 2d November, 1814, where he was active pastor for over fifty years, and still lives in his ninety-third year. He married, 13th April, 1815, Mary, daughter of Rev. Dr. Emmons, and his wife is still with him in unusual vigor for her years. Of his five children only two survive — Rev. Jacob, Jr., graduated at Amherst College 1848, and now for twenty-two years pastor in Mansfield, and Rev. Alexis W., late pastor in Stafford Springs, Conn.

His daughter Mary married Rev. Charles T. Torrey, and their daughter Mary married Rev. Albert Briant, now of West Somerville.

Rev. THOMAS KIDDER was the son of Aaron and Elizabeth (Emerson) Kidder, and was born in New Ipswich, N. H., 15th April, 1801. While young his parents removed to Waterford, Vt., where his talents and piety enlisted aid to his entering upon a liberal education. He studied the classics at Bangor, Me., spent a year in Princeton, and completed the course at Andover, graduating in 1834. He staid two years longer as resident graduate. He was settled as pastor at Windsor, Vt., 10th January, 1838, dismissed in April, 1842, and became chaplain of the State's prison for six years. He afterwards preached a year at a time in

different towns about St. Johnsbury. In 1863 he enlisted as private in the Ninth Regiment at Newbern, N. C., but was detailed as nurse in the Eighteenth Corps in Virginia. He was seized by sickness in 1864 and died November 29th of that year, at Base Hospital, Point of Rocks, Va.

Mr. Kidder married, 21st October, 1837, Nancy, daughter of Caleb Fisher of Franklin, and sister of Prof. A. M. Fisher of Yale College. They had two children—Catharine Beecher and Helen Everett, wife of David A. Alden of Malden. The mother still lives in St. Johnsbury, Vt.

Rev. SAMUEL KINGSBURY was the son of James and Mary (Upton) Kingsbury, and a relative of Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, D. D., missionary to the Choctaws, through his grandfather, Daniel. He was born in Franklin, 18th May, 1798, and lived in a small old house near Cress brook place, now in Norfolk. A feeble and odd child, he yet had a strong thirst for study, and, by the aid and encouragement of Dr. Emmons and others, he succeeded in graduating from Brown University in 1822. He preached acceptably for a time in Tamworth, N. H., and was settled 14th January, 1829, over a new church in Andover, N. H. After a year, he was installed in Warwick, N. H., 6th November, 1833, and dismissed 30th June, 1835. His later history is not known.

Mr. Kingsbury married, 16th December, 1829, Mary, daughter of Josiah Badcock of Andover, N. H., and had seven children. His oldest living son, Rev. William Henry, we find settled in Corinth, Vt., 5th January, 1859, and was in Charlton, N. Y., in 1871.

Dr. SAMUEL ALLEN KINGSBURY was the youngest son of Stephen and Abigail (Allen) Kingsbury, and was born in Franklin 9th November, 1793. He was graduated at Brown University, 1816, and studied medicine. But he had hardly opened an office for his profession in Foxboro, when he died in that town, 8th October, 1821, aged 27 years 11 months. He was regarded as a very promising candidate in his vocation.

Rev. HARTFORD PARTRIDGE LEONARD, son of Captain Hartford and Elizabeth (Shaw) Leonard, was born in Foxboro 3d May, 1822, but removed with his parents to Franklin 1st April, 1829, and has since been claimed as a son of the latter town. He fitted for college in the old Franklin Academy, and entered Amherst College in 1840, but a sudden sickness in his sophomore year

compelled him to abandon study and betake himself to some open air vocation. For some years he conducted business in Boston, where he did good service also in the establishing of the Edwards Congregational church. The great question of freedom in Kansas, then so fiercely threatened, aroused his sympathy, and he joined the first company of immigrants with Governor Robinson. He went through the John Brown war as a private, carrying a Sharp's rifle presented to liberty by a daughter of Rev. Dr. Dutton of New Haven, Conn. The spiritual needs of the settlers turned his thoughts again to the missionary work, and his wife dying he returned East to fit himself for the ministry. He spent some two years in studying theology with Rev. M. Blake in Taunton, and was ordained in Edgartown, M. V., 23d June, 1833. Having remarried he returned to Kansas, but the health of his wife compelled him to leave the West entirely. Since his return he has preached in Bridgewater and Westport, and is now stated supply of the church in East Taunton.

Mr. Leonard married, first, Emily Whitaker of Franklin, who died in Kansas soon after; second, Miss Lucy A. Chapman of Tewksbury. He has four children, the oldest of whom, Willie H., is preparing for admission to Amherst College the coming year.

Dr. FERDINAND LETHBRIDGE was a native of Franklin, born 26th May, 1778, and eldest child of Samuel and Sarah Lethbridge. He studied medicine with Dr. Nathaniel Miller, and settled in South Brimfield, now Wales, where he died, 25th March, 1811, aged 33 years. He was buried in Franklin.

Hon. HORACE MANN, L. L. D.,\* was the son of Thomas and Mary (Stanley) Mann, and was born in Franklin 4th May, 1796. His father was a small farmer, and lived on what was called "The Plain." He died when Horace was but 13, leaving him little more than a virtuous example and a thirst for knowledge, a brother Stanley, and a sister, Lydia B., of sympathetic tastes, who still lives in Providence, R. I., the field of her life labors.

Horace inherited a tendency to consumption, with which he had to battle during his life, and which probably gave him his nervous sensitiveness. His youth was spent as was that of others at that

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\* This sketch is mainly condensed from "The American Portrait Gallery," vol. iii, 179.

time at farm work in its season, and in the district school in winter. The bitterness with which he speaks of those years, especially of his religious surroundings, he probably did not taste until after years had given him a condition more agreeable to his aspirations. His picture of Dr. Emmons especially must have been painted in after years, and from a different position. He remained at home with his mother until 20. During this time an itinerant schoolmaster, Samuel (?) Barrett, opened a school in town. Barrett was an eccentric genius, full to overflowing with the classics, which he could quote by the page, but ignorant utterly of the mathematics. He would keep school for six months upon a most abstemious diet, and then travel in a drunken frenzy for the rest of the year.\* A singular grammar published by him in 1813 is his only surviving monument. Young Mann attended this school, and in it first saw a Latin grammar. With the reluctant consent of his guardian, he began the study of Latin and Greek, and by assiduous industry at the end of six months entered as sophomore in Brown University September, 1816. But such a devotion continued in college overthrew his health and compelled him to leave his class for a time. He was obliged, also, to gain the means of continuing in college by school-keeping in the winter. Yet, with all these drawbacks, he graduated in 1819 as the valedictorian of his class of twenty. After graduation he entered the law office of Hon. J. J. Fiske of Wrentham, but was soon after appointed tutor in his Alma Mater. He held this office two years, and then entered the Law School in Litchfield, Conn. After a year he completed his legal course with Hon. James Richardson of Dedham, and was admitted to the bar December, 1823.

Mann's early devotion to study was continued in his legal practice, so that it is said during his fourteen years of office life, or until he left his profession in 1837, he gained at least four-fifths of all cases committed to him. But this success was doubtless because he had one inflexible rule — never to undertake a case which he did not believe to be right. In 1827 Mr. Mann was chosen as

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\* So says "The American Portrait Gallery." But John Barrett wrote the English grammar, of which we have a copy. He was of Hopkinton, the grandson of the first minister, Rev. Samuel, born 1759, and died 4th April, 1821. He was eccentric and wayward, but hardly to the degree described above.



Horace Mann



Representative of Dedham to the Legislature by the Whig party. He soon became a conspicuous member of that body, and was annually returned by increasing majorities of his townsmen while he resided in Dedham. His first speech was in opposition to close religious corporations, and his second in favor of railroads, supposed to be the first speech printed in any legislature on that now dominant interest. He earnestly advocated the suppression of intemperance and lotteries, and the elevation of the public schools. He introduced, sustained and carried through the bill for establishing a State Lunatic Hospital, and was chairman of its first board of trustees. He was one of a committee for codifying the laws of the State.

In 1833 Mr. Mann removed to Boston and formed a law partnership with Hon. Edward G. Loring. At the next election he was chosen State Senator for Suffolk county, which office he filled for four successive years. He was president of that body in 1836 and 1837. He was also chosen with his townsman Judge Theron Metcalf, to edit the Revised Statutes, for which he wrote the marginal notes and references and judicial decisions.

But Mr. Mann's great work was in the department of the public schools. These had held a prominent place in his studies and speeches, and when the Board of Education was created he was elected, 29th June, 1837, its first secretary, an office he held for eleven years. Of his work in this field and its results there is no need to speak. The children of our common schools have built a monument to his labors in bronze, in front of the Capitol of the Commonwealth. Of these labors he says in his "Supplementary Report" of 1848, "from the time when I accepted the secretaryship in June, 1837, until May, 1848, when I tendered my resignation, I labored in this cause on an average of not less than fifteen hours a day. From the beginning to the end of this period I never took a single day for relaxation, and months and months together passed without my withdrawing a single evening from working hours to call upon a friend."

In 1848 he was elected to Congress to fill the place of John Quincy Adams, and was twice re-elected to the House. In 1852 he was nominated for the Governorship of the State by the Free Soil party, and on the same day was chosen President of Antioch College at Yellow Springs, Ohio. He failed of election as Gover-

nor, but accepted the Presidency and continued in it until his death, 2nd August, 1859, aged 63 years.

Mr. Mann, in 1830, married Charlotte Messer, youngest daughter of President Messer of Brown University. She lived but a short time, dying 1st August, 1832. It was not until ten years, in 1843, that he married again — Miss Mary Peabody of Boston. In 1849 he received the degree of LL. D. from Harvard University. Two sons now represent the family, both graduates and teachers — one at Cambridge, the other in the West.

EDWARD MCFARLAND, Esq., was born in Franklin 7th August, 1856, son of Hugh and Celia (Doherty) McFarland. He prepared for college at Dean Academy, and graduated at Holy Cross College, Worcester, 1873. He studied law with Esquire Colburn, of Dedham, two years, and one year at Boston University, graduating in 1876, being one of the five out of twenty-nine candidates admitted by a new and critical examination to the bar. He is now residing in Franklin.

ALBERT METCALF, son of Dea. Jonathan and Mary Metcalf, was born in the north part of Franklin 20th September, 1808. He fitted for college, partly at Medway Village Academy and partly with Rev. E. Smalley, of Franklin. He entered Amherst College in 1832, but was compelled to leave after one term, on account of his eyes. On a journey West for his health, he stopped at a village in New York called Painted Post, where his traveling bag, marked "Franklin," attracted the notice of a Mr. French in search of a school-teacher. This led to inquiry and ultimately to the engagement of Mr. Metcalf to open a private school there. From Painted Post he went to Auburn, N. Y., where such success attended his school that he sent East for an assistant. Miss Caroline C. Plimpton, of Medway, was secured, and to her he was not long after married. But his health still further failed. He was compelled to relinquish his place in school and he lived less than a year after his marriage. He died of consumption at home 11th August, 1837. His widow afterwards became the well-known and successful principal of the Wheaton Female Seminary, Norton, for more than a quarter of a century, and still is active in educational work.

ALFRED METCALF, Esq., brother of Eliab, and son of Dea. James and Abigail (Harding) Metcalf was born in Franklin 6th





June, 1781. He was graduated in 1802 at Brown University, in the class with Melatiah Everett, Dr. S. Bugbee of Wrentham, and Samnel M. Pond of Franklin, and entered the legal profession. He removed to Kentucky and began practice, where he was appointed Judge. But his health compelled him to seek a warmer climate, and he removed further South to Natchez, Miss., in the spring of 1819, where he was seized by an epidemic fever in the following summer and died at the seat of William M. Greene, Esq., near that city, 30th October, 1819. The Mississippi State *Gazette* of 6th May, 1820, printed at Natchez, says of Mr. Metcalf:—

He was one with whom few could be compared, for he was emphatically the favorite of Nature. His acquirements and his virtues commanded the respect of the world and the warmest affections of his friends. Although always modest and retiring he possessed the unconscious art of throwing a charm into his manner and conversation which not only entranced the gay, but gladdened even the hearts of the sad. He sunk in the meridian of life and left a vacuum in society which others may fill, but which we have yet found none to supply.

Dr. EBENEZER METCALF was the eighth child of Michael and Abial (Colburn) Metcalf, and was born in Franklin, 1st June, 1727. His father was an original member of the Franklin church, and was chosen ruling elder 8th March, 1738-9; he and his associate, Jonathan Wright, being the only ones elected to that office in the church. Dr. Metcalf is believed to have been the first physician in the West precinct, where he practiced for as many as fifty years with great acceptance. He died 30th March, 1801, in his 74th year.

Dr. Metcalf married, 27th November, 1755, Hannah Morse, and had only one son Paul, mentioned further on in these sketches.

ELIAB METCALF was born in Franklin, 5th February, 1785, and was the third son of Deacon James and Abigail (Harding) Metcalf of River End. He was intended to be his father's successor on the farm, and he spent his time thereon, except in the short terms of the district school, until he was 18, when a severe cold disabled him and laid the foundation for the disease which pursued him through life. In 1807 he fell in with a native of Guadalupe name Lauriel who was being educated in this country, and accepted an invitation to spend the winter with him in his home. On his return from Guadalupe in the spring, Metcalf renewed

his cold and was confined in New York several weeks under the care of Dr. Dwight Post. This attack released him permanently from the labors of the field, and having a decided taste for drawing he inclined to become a painter. But his friends discouraging him, he betook himself to trading in the West Indies. Unsuccessful in business, he turned himself again to his favorite pursuit, and with his father's reluctant consent to what he thought a trifling occupation, began the painting of miniature portraits. He was still in feeble health, but when able he traveled as a miniature painter for many years in New England, Canada, and Nova Scotia. At length he went to New York city, opened a studio and studied drawing in connection with it, under John Rubens Smith, a somewhat celebrated teacher. In 1815 he began oil painting under Messrs. Waldo & Jewett. But his health slowly waned under the confinement, and in 1819 he was compelled to leave his young family and friends, and, furnished with letters of introduction to prominent gentlemen in New Orleans, betake himself to that city. Being the only portrait painter there, his business increased rapidly and his health improved. He remained here three years, with the exception of one visit to New York, taken all the way on horseback through the Western States. In the autumn of 1822 he visited the island of St. Thomas. He remained on this island and St. Croix four years, fully employed on the portraits of their officials and distinguished citizens. A government ship was sent also to carry him to Porto Rico to paint its Governor's portrait, where he was treated with great respect and remained six months constantly occupied. He had now attained the highest rank as an artist, and his health had become so established that he resolved to spend one winter with his beloved family in New York. But the old cough reappeared and he had to return, this time to Havana. He was able here to resume his palette again in its mild climate, and for eight years was occupied with an ever-widening circle of patrons. He spent each summer with his family in New England and his winters South in his profession.

In April, 1833, Mr. Metcalf was seized with the cholera, then raging in Cuba, from which he recovered, but he never touched pencil again. He was able to visit his friends in June, but felt compelled to return in the fall, taking with him his second son. The voyage proved tempestuous and cold, and was too much for

his weakened condition. He was tenderly cared for on his arrival, but he gradually sank in debility until Jan. 15 1834 when he fell on sleep.

Mr. Metcalf married, September, 1814, Miss Ann Benton, daughter of Capt. Selah Benton, a Revolutionary officer, and had four children. It is said of Mr. Metcalf that there are in Cuba more portraits by him than by any other artist.

FERDINAND METCALF was son of Dr. John and Eunice Metcalf, and brother of Dr. William Pitts Metcalf. He was born in Franklin 22d November, 1760. He fitted for college and entered Brown University, but died during his junior year, 11th October, 1777, at the age of 17. He intended to study for the medical profession, for which his family seemed created.

Dr. JOHN METCALF, the son of Samuel and Judith (George) Metcalf, was born in Franklin 3d July, 1734. He studied Latin under the tuition of Rev. David Thurston of Medway West, in 1755, and medicine with Dr. Joseph Hews of Providence, R. I. He married Eunice Metcalf in 1759, and practiced his profession in Franklin until his wife's death, 1st August, 1805, when he soon after removed to Vermont, where he died 22d August, 1822, aged 88. Dr. Metcalf had two children, Ferdinand and William Pitt, both mentioned in these notes.

Dr. JOHN GEORGE METCALF, son of Dr. William P. and Susanna (Torrey) Metcalf, was born "in the three-story house," City Mills, Franklin, 10th September, 1801. He fitted for college with Master John Barrett of Hopkinton, and at Day's Academy, Wrentham; graduated at Brown University, 1820, and studied medicine with Dr. Usher Parsons of Providence, R. I., and with Dr. N. Miller of Franklin. He received the degree of M. D. from Harvard University 1826, and settled in Mendon June 22d following, where he has since remained in a wide and successful practice.

In 1856 Dr. Metcalf gave the annual address before the Massachusetts Medical Society, of which he was chosen a Vice-President in 1860. He was in 1858 and 1859 elected to the State Senate, and has held many other offices in town and memberships of Historical Societies especially, not the least of them being the town treasurer of Mendon, annually chosen since 1859, or nearly twenty years.

Dr. Metcalf married, 26th February, 1826, Miss Abigail Holbrook. His children were born in Mendon.

Dr. PAUL METCALF, son of Dr. Ebenezer and Hannah (Morse) Metcalf, was born in Franklin 7th March, 1766. He became also a physician in his native town, and promised to be a reputable practitioner, but was cut off in early life, dying 9th Augnst, 1793, in his 27th year.

ATHERON METCALF\* was the son of Hanan and Mary (Allen) Metcalf of Franklin, and was born 16th October, 1784. His father lived on a small farm adjoining the Common, and was next neighbor to Rev. Dr. Emmons. The son, showing strong affinities for books, began classical studies with the minister, and in 1805 was graduated at Brown University. He then studied law with a Mr. Bacon in Canterbury Conn., and in April following entered the law school at Litchfield—at that date the only law school in the United States. He was admitted to the bar of that State in October, 1807; but he spent a year in study with Hon. Seth Hastings of Mendon, and was admitted at Dedham as Attorney of the Circuit Court. In 1811 he became counselor of the Supreme Judicial Court for Massachusetts. After a year's practice in his home town, where little law business ever developed, he removed in 1809 to Dedham, where he remained for thirty years as an acknowledged master in his profession. For twelve years from April, 1817, he was County Attorney. In 1831, 1833 and 1834 he represented Dedham in the House, and in 1835 in the Senate of our State, and was each year Chairman of the Judiciary Committee.

In addition to his profession, for many years he edited the Dedham *Gazette*, and in 1828 he opened a law school and gave law lectures in Dedham. These lectures resulted in a book, since highly commended, entitled "Principles of the Law of Contracts as applied by Courts of Law." This was but the beginning of a series of valuable professional works, court reports, etc., from his pen, which have been commended by high authority for their "great precision, terseness and purity of style, with accuracy, clearness, completeness and condensation of statement."

In 1835 Mr. Metcalf was appointed with Horace Mann, two

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\*A memoir, prepared for the Massachusetts Historical Society by George S. Hale, has given a full sketch of his public career. We add biographical notes.

Franklin sons, to edit the Revised Statutes of the State. In December, 1839, he was chosen reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court, and removed to Boston. His reports have been called "the model and the despair of reporters." In 1848, February 25th, he was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. He held this office until 31st August, 1865, when he resigned it, after seventeen years of unblemished fidelity and after eighty years of life, to spend his last days in the quiet which he loved.

Judge Metcalf was twice elected a Fellow of Brown University, in 1832 and 1847. He was also its secretary for six years. He received from it the degree of LL.D. in 1844, and the same degree from Harvard University in 1848. He also prepared the triennial catalogues of his Alma Mater for years, and enriched its library with a collection of occasional sermons, over 8,000 in number, such as no other library possesses. He died in Boston 13th November, 1875, at the age of 91.

Judge Metcalf married Miss Julia Tracy, of Litchfield, Conn., and had three children.

His son George Tracy graduated B. U. 1853, and practiced law in Peoria, Ill., until his death. Theodore has been for years a widely known druggist on Tremont Row, Boston, and is still in active business. He had one daughter, Julia, living unmarried in Boston.

Dr. WILLIAM PITT METCALF, younger son of Dr. John Metcalf, was born in Franklin 30th June, 1775. He pursued the Latin and Greek languages with Rev. Caleb Alexander of Mendon, and medicine with Dr. Samuel Willard of Uxbridge. He began practice in 1800, at first with his father, but afterwards by himself, and continued the widely-known and prominent physician of this town for forty years. In his old age he retired to his son's house in Mendon, where he spent the chief portion of his time in reading. The New Testament in the original Greek was his daily study up to the last day of his life. He died suddenly and without warning 4th January, 1861, aged 86.

Dr. Metcalf married, 25th November, 1799, Miss Susanna Torrey, and left several children, among them Dr. J. G. Metcalf, already mentioned.

Dr. WILLIAM WARREN METCALF, a native of Franklin, was born

12th April, 1819, and was the son of William and Sally (Gaskill) Metcalf. He gained most of his education at the Franklin Academy, but being of small physical vigor constitutionally, he could not take a full collegiate course. He studied dentistry with Dr. Mayo of Boston, and established an office in Franklin in 1847. He was an unusually ingenious operator, anticipating many improvements in his profession. About 1862 he removed to Boston, but his feeble health culminated finally in a diseased brain, of which he died 18th August, 1870. He was never married.

Dr. ERASME DARWIN MILLER is a son of Franklin, born 7th April, 1813, at the River End, and the youngest child of Dr. Nathaniel and Hannah (Boyd) Miller. He graduated at Brown University, 1832, and after a full course of medical study, established himself in practice at the center of his native town. He was admitted a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1838, and about the same date removed to Dorchester, where he has since resided, following his profession with success, especially in the department of surgery, for which the Miller family have apparently a peculiar proclivity and natural skill.

Dr. Miller married Louisa Clark, and had two children during his residence in Franklin.

Dr. LEVRELETTE MILLER, oldest son of Dr. Nathaniel Miller, and brother of Dr. E. D. Miller, was born in Franklin, 6th January, 1798. He graduated at Brown University, 1817. After gaining his profession he established an office in Providence, where he gained a wide reputation and practice as a physician, and especially as a surgeon. He was for years President of the Rhode Island Medical Society. He died in Providence.

His son Nathaniel became a celebrated surgeon, was studying in Europe during the Crimean war, and connected in some way with the Russian hospitals, but an early death destroyed the hopes of his coming usefulness.

Dr. NATHANIEL MILLER, although a native of Rehoboth, the son of Philip Miller, became a son-in-law of Franklin and one of its prominent citizens, as well as one of the eminent surgeons of Eastern Massachusetts. He studied medicine first as an apprentice to Dr. Louis Leprelette in Norton.

Dr. Leprelette was a noteworthy man, a French physician who left his country during the dynasty of the first Napoleon, and of



Erasmus D. Miller M. D.





DR. LEWIS LEPRILETE MILLER.



whom he would not speak, and followed his profession awhile in Franklin. He died there, but was buried in Roxbury. He was reticent of his personal history and few facts only have been preserved of him.

Dr. Miller received the degree of A. M. from Bowdoin College 1814, and of M. D. in 1817 from both Brunswick and Cambridge. He was also Vice-President of the Massachusetts Medical Society for many years. He erected a large building for a hospital near his residence to accommodate the many patients who flocked to him for treatment. He also built a small thread-mill near his house which was managed by Col. Willard Boyd, his wife's brother, and others of that family. Mr. Willard Lovering began his training in this mill, who afterwards established with his sons the large and celebrated Whittenton Mills of Taunton.

Dr. Miller married Hannah Boyd of Franklin 1st January, 1797. and had three children, sons, two of whom have been already mentioned, and John Warren, a man of business in Franklin. Dr. Miller died 10th June, 1850.

Dr. Miller had an uncommon steadiness of nerve, which enabled him to perform the most difficult surgical operations. He was always interested, active and generous in all matters of public benefit, and was chosen often to act upon important committees. Of his wife Dr. Emmons said, "she is one of the three best women in town."

Prof. CALVIN SMITH PENNELL is substantially a son of Franklin, although he was born a little while before becoming a resident. His mother belonged to one of its oldest families, and returned to Franklin with her four children upon the death of her husband, to spend the chief part of her life on the home aeres. Mr. Pennell was born 24th January, 1816, in Coleraine, being the son of Calvin and Rebecca (Mann) Pennell. The mother was a sister of Hon. Horace Mann.

Calvin S. fitted for college in the Franklin Academy and graduated at Waterville College, now Colby University, Maine, in 1841. He had the ministry in view, but temporarily engaging in teaching, the disposition to it grew by what it fed on, the whole Mann family having a proclivity that way, and cheered on by noticeable success, he continued in the calling to which he has shown himself especially fitted. First he taught at Day's Academy, Wrentham.

He next went to the High School in Cabotville (now Chicopee); thence to Charlestown, and to the High School in Lawrence. He filled with acceptance the Professorship of Latin language and literature in Antioch College, Yellow Springs, O., but afterwards, in 1856, was called to the High School in St. Louis, Mo. He was elected in 1862 as one of the professors of Washington University in that city, and soon after was promoted to the principaship of the Mary Institute—a girls' school under the University charter. He is now Bridge Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy in the University, and Principal of the Mary Institute in St. Louis.

Professor Pennell, while in Cabotville, married Elizabeth W. Abbott of Woburn. She died two years afterwards, leaving one daughter, who died in 1874 in Dusseldorf, Germany, the wife of James W. Pattison, an artist, residing there. He next married Elizabeth O. Emmes of Charlestown, and has one daughter, Maria Francis, wife of Charles C., son of the late Chancellor Hoyt of the Washington University, St. Louis.

It may not be out of place here to add, as evidence of the teaching faculty resident in the Mann family to which Professor Pennell belonged, that his father and mother were both adepts in the profession, and his three sisters devoted themselves to school-teaching until called into a smaller circle of pupils by marriage. Mrs. Rebecca M. (Pennell) Dean, Governor Briggs said, was the best teacher in the world. She is now a widow and, at this present, is traveling with a class of young ladies in Europe for their education. Mrs. Eliza M. (Pennell) Blake was teacher in the Packer Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., at her death in 1857. Mrs. Marcia (Pennell) Hersey was also a teacher at her marriage, and is now first directress of an Industrial School in Brooklyn.

Maria Mann, a daughter of Stanley, brother of Horace Mann, and a cousin of the Pennells, attained a high distinction in the Western cities as a teacher. These were all members of the old Franklin Academy, and hence their success has been a pleasant item to record in this seemingly out-of-place corner. The two sons of Horace Mann are also teachers of repute.

Rev. WILLIAM PHIPPS, Jr., was the eldest son of William and Fanny (Moulton) Phipps, and a descendant of John Phipps of Wrentham, 1700. He was born in Franklin 31st October, 1812. He attended several terms at Day's Academy, Wrentham, and at



DR. NATHANIEL MILLER, SENIOR.



16 taught school at City Mills and the Mount districts in his native town. In 1831 he completed fitting for college at the Classical Institute, Medway village, and was graduated at Amherst College 1837. He afterwards taught school one year in Edgartown, M. V., and then studied theology with Rev. Dr. Ide of West Medway; was approbated by the Mendon Association 29th August, 1839, and was installed at Paxton 11th November, 1840. He labored industriously here for nearly thirty years and to unanimous acceptance, until he resigned and was dismissed 12th February, 1869. He soon received a call from the church in Plainfield, Conn., and was installed there 9th June of the same year. He was successfully working in this new position when death suddenly opened the door to him unto the perfect life. He died 13th June, 1876, aged 63 years and 8 months, in triumph and song.

Mr. Phipps was widely known as a teacher and composer of music. He was skillful, too, in the making of his own instruments, and it was well that almost his last words were uttered in some of his favorite hymns. The writer must be allowed to record here this brief and imperfect memento of the steady and cordial friendship of his early and life-long companion.

Mr. Phipps married, 5th September, 1837, Marcy C. Partridge, eldest daughter of Eleazer, Jr., and Mary (Fisher) Partridge, by whom he had seven children, five still living. His two sons, George Gardner and William Hamilton, are graduates of Amherst College, 1862, and are both Congregational ministers. Rev. George G. is pastor of the church at Newton Highlands, and Rev. W. H. of the church in Prospect, Conn.

REV. GEORGE GARDNER PHIPPS, son of Rev. William and Mary C. (Partridge) Phipps, was born in Franklin 11th December, 1838. He fitted for college at Munson Academy, and graduated at Amherst College 1862, and at Andover Theological Seminary in 1865.

He supplied the church in Ashland for two years, from September, 1865, to October, 1867, and was next settled as pastor at Wellesley, 23d January, 1868. After a ten years' pastorate he was dismissed 1st April, 1878, to take charge of the church at Newton Highlands, where he was installed 4th April last.

Mr. Phipps married, 12th September, 1865, Kathleen M. Carruth of Phillipston, daughter of Russell and Susan Ward Carruth.

DR. BENJAMIN POND was born in Franklin 4th April, 1789.

He was son of Benjamin and Catharine (Cutler) Pond, graduated from the Medical College, Dartmouth, 1813, as M. D., and practiced in Westboro through life.

He first married Lucy, daughter of Jonas Gale; second, Eunice L. Cloyes, and third Lucy M. Brigham, and had three children. He died 7th June, 1857.

Rev. DANIEL POND, the earliest known graduate from this town, was son of John and Rachel (Fisher) Pond. He graduated at Harvard University, 1745, and was ordained in Templeton, then Narragansett township No. 6, 10th December, 1755; dismissed August, 1759. He removed to Medway, where, for many years, he fitted youth for college. He left the West church, being strongly opposed to the pastor, Rev. D. Sanford, for his Hopkinsianism, and joined the First church. This induced a long dissension between the churches. He finally sold his farm and disappears from all record. Tradition says he died at Otter Creek.

He married Lois Metcalf, who died in Medway, 17th March, 1787. One child only survived, Miranda, who married Abner Merrifield of Newfane, Vt. It was in Mr. Pond's family that Judge Aldis had his early training.

Dr. ELISHA POND was the son of Elisha and Margaret (Metcalf) Pond, born in Franklin 21st February, 1749. He was practicing physician in town for many years. He married Olive Dean and died 21st December, 1807, leaving two children, Edna, who is believed to have married Timothy Hill, and Olive, who married Abijah Richardson, Jr. His widow married Ebenezer Clark, of Medfield.

Dr. ERASMUS ALLINGTON POND is a son of Franklin, being born in Unionville, 6th July, 1828, and eldest son of Goldsbury, Jr., and Julia Ann Pond. He was educated partly in the Franklin Academy and by private instruction. He studied medicine with Dr. S. Atwood, of Franklin, and Dr. Lynch of South Carolina. He resided at Baltimore a while and attended medical lectures in the Maryland University in that city; also in the Tremont Medical School, Boston, and at the Medical Department of Harvard University, where he received the degree of M. D. in 1853.

Dr. Pond soon after established his office in Rutland, Vt., where he still is widely known and employed in his profession. He, for the first time in New England, successfully performed tracheot-

omy in diphtheria. He is also the inventor of the "new sphygmograph" for measuring and tracing arterial pulsation, which proves of great value to the profession.

Dr. Pond was married 19th August, 1850, to Adela M. Morse, daughter of George W. and Esther (Pond) Morse, of Franklin, and has five children.

GILBERT C. POND, son of Timothy and Rachel (Adams) Pond, was born in Franklin, 4th November, 1812. He studied the languages at the Medway Class. Institute, and entered Williams College, but left to engage as teacher in Lexington, Ky., where he died unmarried 5th November, 1835, at the early age of 23.

Dr. METCALF EVERETT POND is the youngest child of Goldsbury, Jr., and Julia Ann Pond. He was born in Franklin, Unionville, 26th October, 1845, graduated Dean Academy 1869, studied dentistry three years with Prof. I. J. Wetherbee, of Boston, and graduated D. D. S. from the Boston Dental College in 1874. He is now practicing in his profession in Auburndale, Mass.

SAMUEL METCALF POND, Esq., the youngest son of Oliver and Anne (Metcalf) Pond, born in Franklin 16th November, 1777, graduated at Brown University 1802; studied law and opened an office in Bucksport, Me. He became well known through the State for his intelligence, energy and moral worth, and stood high at the bar and as Judge of Probate. He was a leading temperance man. A notice says of him, "the State, the public, and the town have sustained a heavy loss."

He married Margaret Danforth, and had seven children. He died 23d January, 1849.

Rev. TIMOTHY POND, born in Franklin 15th September, 1729. Was son of Baruch and Abigail (Slocum) Pond. H. U., 1749. Studied for the ministry but is not known to have settled. He was Lieutenant in Capt. Lemuel Kollock's company, which marched at the Concord alarm, and private under Capt. Samuel Fisher in Rhode Island, 1776. He lived on his father's homestead, which he sold to Dr. Emmons, and which is now in part the site of Dean Academy. He then removed to Wrentham and died there suddenly 10th November, 1804.

He married Elizabeth Bullard of Dedham, and had six children.

Dr. JENNER LEWIS SWEETING PRATT, son of Dr. Spencer and Jane (Wheeler) Pratt, was born in Franklin 16th October, 1825.

He prepared for college at Smithville Academy, now Lapham Institute, North Scituate, R. I., and also under Rev. P. B. Talbot of Woonsocket, R. I. He graduated from Columbia College, New York city, and studied medicine with Dr. Hiram Allen of Woonsocket, and surgery with Dr. Arnold Hazzard Potter of the same town. He then spent the years 1845 and 1846 in the Bangor Hospital. After practicing a while in Woonsocket he was appointed to and did make a botanical survey of the State of Rhode Island. He was also for a time assistant surgeon under Dr. Francis L. Wheaton of Providence, in the Mexican War.

Dr. Pratt ultimately settled, 1851, in Michigan as physician at Minnesota Mines, Ontonagon river, Lake Superior, where he surveyed, laid out, and named the town of Rockland. At the time of his death he was engaged under appointment of the Smithsonian Institute, in writing the natural history of his region. He was a devoted and public temperance advocate, and a successful business agent, accumulating quite a property. His death was sudden and painful, being upset August, 1854, in a birch canoe on the lake by a sudden gale and drowned with two of his companions, only one of the four escaping.

Dr. Pratt married in Sault St. Marie, fall of 1852, Minerva B. Aldrich of Cumberland, R. I. He left no children. His widow died a few years since in Woonsocket, while on a visit to her friends.

SPENCER ATKINSON PRATT, Esq., son of Dr. Spenceer and Elizabeth (Wood) Pratt and half-brother of the preceding, was born in Franklin Center 10th October, 1808; fitted for college at Day's Academy and with Rev. Simeon Daggett of Mendon, and graduated in 1830 at Brown University. He studied law two years with Hon. Theron Metcalf at Dedham, and spent one year in the office of Warren Lovering, Esq., at Medway village. He also taught the Center schools in Franklin and Milford, and was postmaster for a part of 1835. In 1836 he went to Bangor, Me., and opened a law office. He also engaged in newspaper writing and acted as superintendent of schools in the city. In May, 1846, he was appointed municipal judge, which office he held until 1860.

In 1836 he married Mary R. Gilmore, daughter of David G., Jr., of Newburgh, Me., at that time residing in Franklin.

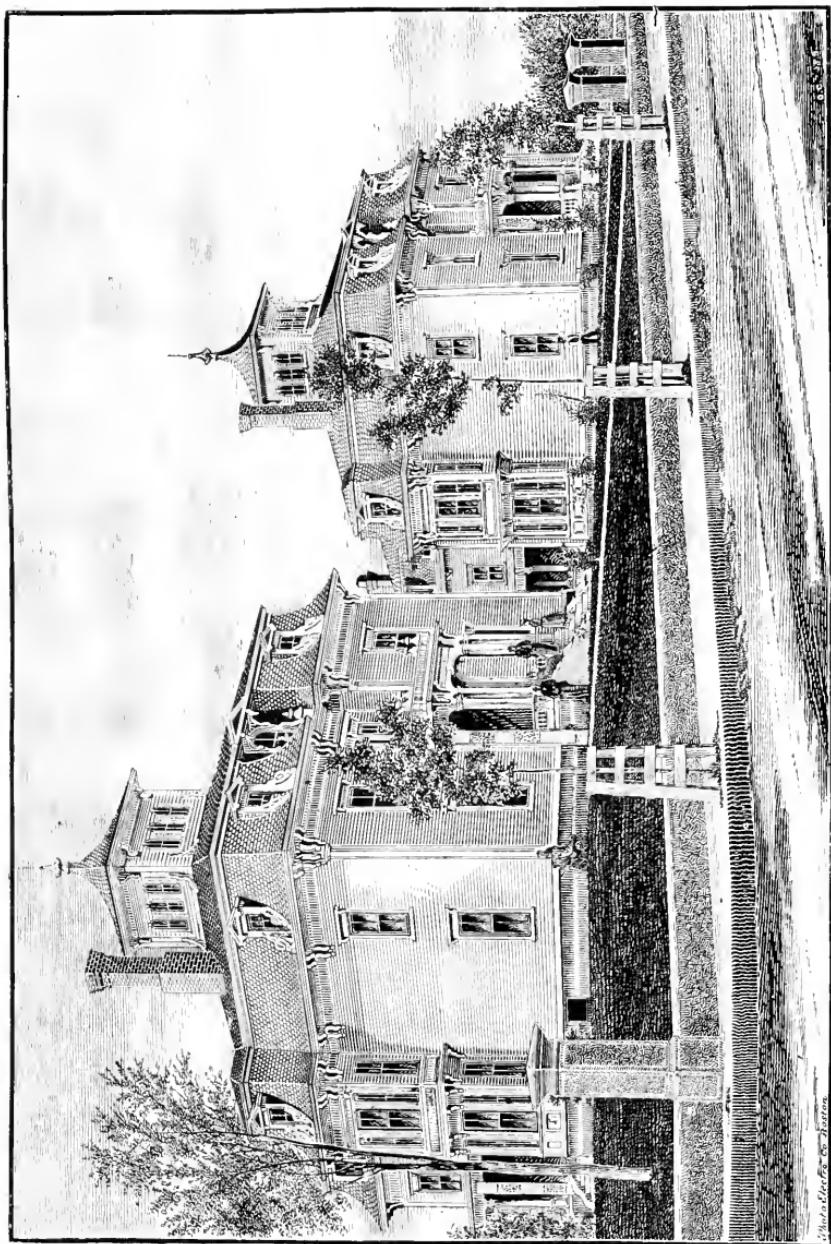
Rev. JOHN BOWERS PRESTON, who becomes connected with this



JOSEPH G. RAY.

RESIDENCES OF

JAMES P. RAY.



history by the marriage of a Franklin daughter, was a native of Fairfield, N. J., in 1770. Early left an orphan, he still made his way through college, graduating at William and Ann College, Philadelphia, 1793. Traveling for his health, he came to Franklin, where he found his theology with Dr. Emmons, and his wife at Dea. James Metcalf's. He was settled 8th February, 1798, at Rupert, Vt., where he suddenly died 21st February, 1813. He was a remarkably faithful minister and man.

Mr. Preston married, 6th January, 1799, Polly, daughter of Asa Haven, then resident with Dea. James Metcalf, and niece of his wife. They had five children, of whom two sons graduated and entered the ministry, and two daughters married ministers.

Mrs. Preston afterwards married Dea. James Fisher of Gouverneur, N. Y., where she died 23d March, 1848. She was of unusual talents, carrying by her own energy, in spite of poverty, her two sons through college and into the ministry.

LYDIA PAYNE RAY, the *first* lady collegiate graduate from Franklin, is the daughter of Hon. Joseph G. and Emily (Rockwood) Ray. She was born in Bellingham 22d July, 1854, but came with her parents to Franklin in her infancy and has ever since been a dweller in the town. Miss Ray began a full course of classical study in Dean Academy, graduating in 1872. Thence she entered Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and graduated with honor in 1878. She is now an active member of the firm of J. T. & L. P. Ray, Franklin, manufacturers of felt and woolen goods.

A view of the residences of the Ray brothers is given opposite. They occupy the site of Dr. Emmons' house on Main street.

WILLIAM FRANCIS RAY is the only son of Francis B. and Susan B. (Rockwood) Ray. He was born in the Makepeacee House at Unionville, Franklin, 2d March, 1854, graduated from Dean Academy 1870, and from Brown University 1874; was the youngest in a class of forty-five; A. M. 1877. He is engaged now in the woolen business in his native town, also chairman of school committee, and has been parish clerk.

Mr. Ray married Hattie, daughter of Charles A. Richardson, Esq., of Chelsea, and has one child.

ALBERT DEAN RICHARDSON, born on the ancestral farm in North Franklin 6th October, 1833, was youngest child of Elisha and Harriet (Blake) Richardson. Having attended the Franklin and Hol-

liston Academies, he went West in 1850. At first he taught school near Pittsburg, Pa., but soon became reporter for the Pittsburg *Commercial Journal*, and afterwards editor of the Cincinnati *Gazette*. He was in Kansas during its troubles, and reported them for the Boston *Journal*. He was, while there, Secretary for a time of the Atchinson Legislature, and Adjutant-General on the Governor's staff. He became finally connected with the New York *Tribune*, and became its Southern reporter in the beginning of the rebellion. He succeeded in getting to New Orleans at the beginning of the rebellion, and thence could pass at will within the Confederacy. He was in Charleston at the assault and capture of Fort Sumpter. He attended the opening of the Confederate Congress at Montgomery, Ala., taking notes with a pencil in his coat-tail pocket, and sending his reports to the *Tribune* under cover to an associate in Canada. He finally succeeded in reaching home through the Mississippi States. After a short visit to his family, he returned West, but in attempting to pass Vicksburg, then besieged in the summer of 1863, the tug on which he was was sunk by a rebel shot, and he, on landing, was taken prisoner. He was confined eighteen months in Libby and Salisbury prisons, but finally escaped December, 1864. He subsequently traveled West as far as California. Of his experiences in the saddle, the camp, and the prison, vivid pictures are given in the volumes he afterwards published.

He retained his connection with the *Tribune* up to his death, which occurred from a pistol in the hands of Daniel McFarland, for alleged interference with his domestic affairs. He died 2d December, 1869, at the early age of 36. "The affair caused immense excitement at the time." It was regarded generally as a case of chivalry interfering with brutality.

Mr. Richardson married, first, M. Louise Pease, a native of Ohio. She died 4th March, 1864, while he was in prison. He married, second, Mrs. Abby L. Sage, the divorced wife of Daniel McFarland, during the last hours of his life.

Rev. ALBERT M. RICHARDSON, second son of Eli M. and Melitta (Norcross) Richardson, was born in Franklin, 28th July, 1822. After a school season in the Franklin Academy, he completed his studies at Oberlin College, Ohio, and was approbated to preach in 1846, at Kelloggville, O. He was installed March, 1847, over the

Congregational church in Lenox, Ashtabula county, O., and remained three years. He next went, in 1850, to Jamaica, West Indies, as missionary of the American Missionary Association. After four years' service there, he was compelled by his health to return. He preached again in Lenox, O., four years longer, and thence went for two years to Austinburg, and afterwards preached nine years in East Cleveland. In 1870 he removed to Kansas, and was settled as pastor of the Pilgrim church in Lawrence, where he still is.

Mr. Richardson married, 30th May, 1845, Miss Eliza W. Allen, and has three children.

CHARLES ADDISON RICHARDSON, son of Elisha and Harriet (Blake) Richardson and elder brother of Albert D., was born in Franklin, 9th October, 1829. He began a preparation for the ministry, at Holliston Academy, but poor health compelled him to resign the idea, and he turned to teaching. He attended a course of study at the Westfield and Bridgewater normal schools, and taught afterwards in Medway, Franklin, Dedham, and other towns. In 1854 he became clerk in the bookstore of J. P. Jewett & Co., and in 1856 entered the *Congregationalist*, of which he has since been a proprietor and office editor.

Mr. Richardson married Mary J. Phipps, of Ashford, Conn., and a graduate of the Normal School at Westfield. They have had six children, of whom the oldest, Harriet Phipps, is the wife of W. F. Ray, as already mentioned.

DR. ERASTUS RICHARDSON was son of Amasa and Lydia (Haven) Richardson. He was born in Franklin 3d April, 1794. He went to Maine in early life and practiced his profession of medicine in that State with success until his death of a fever, August, 1855, while residing in Eastport.

Dr. Richardson married, first, Mary Johnson, of Robbinston, Me.; second, Mary Shumway, of Oxford, Mass., and formerly of Franklin. He had six children, of whom George Nelson graduated at Bowdoin College, 1847, became a Unitarian minister, and died in Worcester, 11th September, 1870, aged 43.

PROF. HENRY BULLARD RICHARDSON, son of Stephen Wilkes and Eliza R. (Bullard) Richardson, was born in Franklin 21st May, 1844. He fitted for college at Phillips' Academy, Andover, and graduated at Amherst College, 1869. After graduation he was

appointed instructor in Latin and Greek in the college for five years. In 1876 he took charge of the High School in Springfield. He went to Europe for study in 1873, and again in 1876, where he made philology a specialty in the Leipzig University. On his return last summer he was elected to the professorship of Latin and German in his Alma Mater, which he entered upon at the fall term.

Professor Richardson married Mary E. Lincoln, of Amherst, and has two children.

Rev. WILLIAM TYLER RICHARDSON, son of Eli M. and Melita (Norcross) Richardson, was born in Franklin 24th December, 1820. He prepared for college in the Franklin Academy, under the principalship of M. Blake, A. Bigelow and J. D. Baker, but was prevented by ill-health from completing a collegiate course. After a few years in business, which recruited his strength, he studied theology with his brother, Rev. A. M. Richardson, then in Lenox, O. He was ordained to the ministry at Saybrook, O., 5th August, 1859. He has since preached in Gaines, Orleans county, N. Y., in Kelloggsville and Thompson, O., and is now in Orwell, O., as pastor of a Congregational church.

Mr. Richardson has been for six years in the service of the American Missionary Association at the South among the Freedmen, "where," he says, "scoffs, threats and stones were among the highest commendations." Three years he acted as "United States Indian Agent and Special Commissioner" in Wisconsin, which he describes as "the most desperate struggle of my life — not with Indians, to save my own scalp, but with rings and rascals who lived to wrong and rob the poor Indian."

Mr. Richardson married, 20th April, 1842, Ellen M. Gay of Franklin, daughter of Oliver and Maria Burton Gay.

Rev. EBENEZER WEEKS ROBINSON, who married Sarah Bacon, daughter of Dea. James Adams of Franklin, 21st June, 1838, was the son of Rev. Ralph and Anne (Weeks) Robinson, both natives of Connecticut. His father was a graduate of Middlebury College, and preached for half a century in New York State.

Rev. Ebenezer Weeks was born 1st May, 1812, in Granville, N. Y., fitted for college with Rev. W. R. Weeks, D. D., of Newark, N. J., and graduated at Hamilton College, N. Y., and at Auburn Theological Seminary. He preached from 1836 to 1845 in Assonet vill,

Freetown, a year at Carver, and in 1849 to the Hanover Society in Lisbon, Conn. From 1855 to 1864 he was pastor in Bethany, Conn.

In March, 1864, he was appointed clerk in the Paymasters' Department at Washington, where he devoted his extra hours to Sunday and night schools. He also performed chaplain duty at Clifton barracks, until the army was removed. To such labors Mr. Robinson devoted himself until his death at Washington, 8th April, 1869.

Mr. Robinson had seven children. His second son, James A., entered the army, became clerk of the Ninth Corps, and was at the siege of Vicksburg, but was taken sick and died on his way home from the hospital.

FRANK ERNEST ROCKWOOD, Esq., son of Abijah and Sarah (Peek) Rockwood, was born in Franklin 20th December, 1852; prepared for college at Dean Academy and graduated B. U. 1874, A. M. 1877. After a year's study of law in his brother's office, he became teacher of mathematics and natural philosophy in the South Jersey Institute at Bridgeton, N. J., where he still is a bachelor, with declared purpose of continuance unless defeated.

LUCIUS OSBORNE ROCKWOOD, Esq., son of Abijah and Sarah (Peek) Rockwood, was born in Franklin 15th January, 1847. Graduated at Brown University in 1868, and commenced the practice of law, 1871, in Providence. He is now in the firm of Lapham & Rockwood.

Mr. Rockwood married, 12th June, 1872, Miss Eliza G. Ham of that city, and has one child, Thurston Rockwood.

DR. HENRY ELMORE RUSSEGUE was born in Franklin, 11th August, 1850. He is the son of Alpheus A. and Mary (Walker) Russegue. After the usual preparatory studies he took a medical course in Homeopathy at the Boston University, and graduated as M. D. in March, 1878. He is now practicing in his profession at South Framingham. He is at this date unmarried.

GEORGE L. SAYLES, Esq., son of Oren W. and Almira (Ballou) Sayles, was born in Franklin, 28th September, 1830. He was educated at Saxton's River Seminary in Rockingham, Vt., and afterwards spent some time in traveling, visiting California, Mexico, Panama, and both the eastern and western coasts of South America. On his return he established himself in the profession of law in Providence, R. I., where he now resides unmarried.

HERBERT L. SAYLES AND LYCURGUS SAYLES, as appears by the town records, are also sons of Oren W. and Almira (Ballou) Sayles, and natives of Franklin. They are lawyers in Providence, R. I. We have failed to secure responses to further inquiries.

Dea. WILLIAM SLOCUMB was born in Franklin, 5th February, 1783, and was the son of William and Jerusha (Richardson) Slocumb. His family removed to Sutton in 1784, but William not long after returned to Franklin, where he joined the church at 17, under Dr. Emmons, whose teachings he often affirmed left a strong impression upon his character. In 1811 he returned to Sutton, where, by his earnest enthusiasm, he became chief in forming "The Religious Charitable Society for the County of Worcester," whose object was to aid young men in studying for the ministry, feeble churches and foreign missions, and which preceded the American Education Society by four years.\* In 1816, Deacon Slocumb removed to Marietta, O., greatly prospered here, and still impelled by the same zeal for an educated ministry, he prominently aided in the founding of Marietta College, and to which he gave largely, especially to its library. In acknowledgment of his generous gifts, one of its buildings has been called "Slocumb Hall." He also started in Marietta the first Sunday-school west of the Alleghanies, and he wrote and published an arithmetic, for many years the only one used in the then West. He was also a school-teacher for years. In 1855, he came to Rochester, N. Y., where he was for seventeen years an elder in St. Peters Presbyterian church. He died 9th May, 1873, aged over 90 — a long and widely shining light kindled by Dr. Emmons in the beginning, and a specimen of the many laymen so enkindled.

Deacon Slocumb married Selah Cushing of Franklin, but had no children. He made Christian students his family and heir.

GEORGE W. SMALLEY is a son of Franklin, being born here during the pastorate of his father, Rev. Elam Smalley, although his birth is not recorded. After Dr. Smalley's removal to Worcester, he began classical studies and graduated, we believe, at Yale College. From College he turned to journalism, and became an army reporter of the New York *Tribune* during the rebellion. As an instance of his unusual fitness, it is said that his remarkable cool-

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\* See Semi-Centennial Report of American Education Society, page 7.

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ness under fire at the battle of Gettysburg attracted the notice of the General-in-Chief and he employed him, in the temporary absence of his aids, on a perilous mission, which he executed with the utmost *sang-froid*. After the war Mr. Smalley went to Europe as the *Tribune's* foreign correspondent, and still remains in that position. His signature, G. W. S., is regarded as a warrant for clearness of facts and soundness of conclusions, and his articles form no small part of the value of that widely-circulated newspaper. His address is London, but his presence is Europe.

Mr. Smalley married a daughter (adopted) of Wendell Phillips and has three children.

Dr. JOHN WATERS TENNEY, a son-in-law of Franklin through his wife, was a son of Daniel and Betsey (Waters) Tenney of Sutton, where he was born 25th December, 1802. He graduated at Brown University 1823, and studied medicine first with Dr. David Smith of Sutton, then with Dr. N. Reno Smith of Baltimore, in which city he received his diploma of M. D. He afterwards returned to Sutton, where and in Webster he practiced until his death in the latter town, April, 1851.

Dr. Tenney married, 27th October, 1829, Eliza Tileston, daughter of Caleb and Sally (Cushing) Fisher. She is still living in St. Johnsbury, Vt. He left two daughters — Catharine Beecher and Helen Everett, now wife of David A. Alden — both residing in Windsor, Vt.

Dr. CHARLES H. THAYER, a son of Nathaniel and Caroline (Taft) Thayer, was born in Unionville, Franklin, 24th December, 1840. After studying in the ordinary public and private schools of the town until 14, he went into a store in Providence, R. I., attending during the time Austin's Academy and the Commercial College in that city. In 1858 he returned to Franklin to attend the Walpole Academy. On his return to Providence, in 1861, he began the study of dentistry in the office of Dr. W. H. Helm, but at the outbreak of the rebellion, he, with his two fellow students, enlisted in the Union army. His experiences in camp and battlefield are briefly mentioned in our military chapter. He served over three years, was in thirty-one engagements, a prisoner in Libby prison, and rose to the rank of Captain.

After the war Captain Thayer was appointed Special Agent of the United States Treasury, and located at Memphis to look after

confiscated rebel property. But becoming sick in his travels, he resigned and came to Baltimore to complete his studies. He graduated from the Baltimore Dental College in the spring of 1856, and not long after opened an office in Mattoon, Ill. In September, 1869, he removed to Chicago, where he is now practicing his profession.

Dr. Thayer married at Chicago, 12th July, 1871, Juliette Margaret Reed of Stykersville, Wyoming county, N. Y., and has one daughter, born 6th August, 1877.

Rev. WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THAYER is the son of Major Davis and Betsey (Makepeace) Thayer. He was born 23d February, 1820, fitted for college at the Franklin Academy, and graduated at Brown University 1843; studied theology with Rev. Jacob Ide, D. D., of Medway, and was approbated by the Mendon Association 16th October, 1844. He taught school in Attleboro, Franklin and South Braintree. He preached nearly two years in Edgartown, M. V., where he declined to settle, and was finally installed over the church in Ashland 20th June, 1849. In 1857 he was compelled by a throat disease to resign his charge and leave the pulpit altogether for a season. But able still for student work he was engaged as editor of the *Home Monthly and Mother's Assistant* from 1857 to 1862, when he felt sufficiently recovered to accept the Secretaryship of the Massachusetts Temperance Alliance, and has held it until the present year, 1878. In this office he visited and addressed large audiences in almost every town in the Commonwealth, and many out of the State.

While in Ashland Mr. Thayer represented the town in 1856 in the Legislature, also the town of Franklin in 1863. Mr. Thayer has also published several volumes, the best known of which are "Life at the Fireside," "The Bobbin Boy," "The Printer Boy," "The Pioneer Boy," "The Poor Boy and Merchant Prince," "Youth's History of the Rebellion," 4 vols. More than 200,000 copies of these have been sold.

Mr. Thayer married Miss Rebecca Richards of Dover, and has had five children, two of whom are living. Eugene is married and lives in Denver. Addison is at present at home. He resides in Franklin and is engaged in authorship, having published a new work since our Centennial.

Rev. EDWIN THOMPSON, a two-fold son-in-law of Franklin, was

son of William D. Thompson, a native of Marblehead, and his wife Eunice Breed T., of Lynn. He was born in Lynn, 23d July, 1809. His parents were Friends, and he was educated in the Quaker School of his native town, and became afterwards, like all Lynnites, a shoemaker. He was also for twelve years carrier of the first Lynn newspaper. In 1837, at the suggestion of Wendell Phillips, he became agent for Essex county of the anti-slavery cause. In 1841 he was settled as pastor of the Universalist Society in South Dedham — now Norwood. But his deep interest in temperance as well as anti-slavery led him to resign his charge after three years and devote himself wholly to these more congenial causes. From that time he has become better known throughout the State as a temperance advocate than almost any other man.

In 1842 Mr. Thompson married Roxa M., widow of Joseph Morse, of East Walpole. She died in 1848, and he married Louisa Jane, daughter of Maxcy and Persis Fisher, of Franklin, with whom he lived twenty-two years, and had one child, a son. After her death, in 1871, he married her sister, Susan M. Fisher, also of Franklin and the widow of Dea. Levi I. Morse, of Franklin, with whom he still lives in Norwood.

Rev. JOSEPHUS WHEATON, another son-in-law of Franklin, was born in Rehoboth, 16th March, 1788, and was the son of Capt. Joseph and Sarah S. Wheaton. He graduated B. U., 1812, was tutor for two years following, studying theology meanwhile under Rev. Otis Thompson, of Rehoboth. He was settled in Holliston, 6th December, 1815, but died of consumption 4th February, 1825, at the early age of 37.

Mr. Wheaton married Mary Ide, born in Franklin, 1st October, 1790, and only daughter of Daniel and Sarah Ide. Her father died in her childhood, and her mother afterwards married Peter Hunt, Esq., of Seekonk, where Mary was brought up and met with Mr. Wheaton. But her wedded life lasted only from January, 1816, to 28th July, 1817, when she died of consumption, leaving a son of four months. Mr. Wheaton's second wife, Abby Fales, became afterwards the wife of Dea. Benjamin Shepard, of Wrentham.

ABIJAH WHITING, Esq., youngest son of Jonathan and Eleonai (Thurston) Whiting, was born in Franklin, April, 1768. He

graduated at Brown University, 1790, and settled in the profession of law in Salem, N. J., where he was rapidly gaining a distinction when he was arrested in his career by death, in October, 1799.

NATHAN WHITING, Esq., was born in Franklin, April, 1774, and was the son of Asa and Elizabeth (Fisher) Whiting. He also graduated at Brown University in 1796, in the class with Judge Asa Aldis and Hon. Tristam Burgess. He studied law and opened an office in East Greenwich, R. I. Of his further history we have been unable to learn.

Rev. SAMUEL WHITING was among the earliest graduates of this town. He was a son of Joseph and Mary Whiting, one of the first settlers of the precinct. He was born in March, 1750, graduated at Harvard in 1769, and A. M. at Yale, 1772. Entering the ministry he traveled into the wilds of Vermont, and was settled in Rockingham 27th October, 1773, when the town contained less than three hundred inhabitants, on a few clearings along the banks of the Connecticut, with salmon and shad fisheries at Bellows Falls. Here Mr. Whiting established and continued preaching until 1809, when he resigned in discouragement and was dismissed May 18th, the church being almost extinct. He lived but few years longer, dying 16th May, 1819, in his 70th year. He is described as a very faithful and conscientious preacher and man, but the poverty of a new and hardly broken territory was against him.

Rev. THURSTON WHITING, son of Jonathan and Eleonai (Thurston) Whiting, and brother of Abijah, already mentioned, was born in Franklin, June, 1753. He is not known to have graduated at any classical college, but he entered the ministry and was settled in Newcastle, Me., July, 1876, a church being organized the same day. He remained here until January, 1782, being followed by the well known Rev. Kiah Bailey, the predecessor of the still better known Father Sewall. Of Mr. Whiting's further work and life, our inquiries have failed to bring anything to light.

Hon. MARSHALL PINCKNEY WILDER. Franklin may, for a twice-repeated reason, claim this distinguished gentleman among her children, and he has manifested the interest of a son in the town's prosperity. But biographical sketches of him are so many and accessible that we need give only the briefest notice. The fine engraving opposite speaks for him.

Mr. Wilder was born 22d September, 1798, in Rindge, N. H.,



Marshall P. Webster

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and is the eldest son of Samuel Locke and Anna (Sherwin) Wilder. Young Wilder, having the alternative between a college, a farm, and a mercantile life, chose the farm, and on it acquired the physical energy which bears his 80 years now so bravely. From the farm he went into his father's store, and at 21 was taken into partnership, and was also appointed postmaster. Having a military taste he organized a Light Infantry Company in his native town, and at 26 he became Colonel. In 1857 he commanded the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston. In February, 1825, he removed to Boston and opened a wholesale West India goods store on Union street, under the firm of Wilder & Payson, afterwards Wilder & Smith, North Market street. He is now senior member of Parker, Wilder & Co., Winthrop square, the oldest commission domestic goods house in Boston. In all the crises of over fifty years he has never failed to meet his payments. A most honorable business record, and deservedly successful.

But Mr. Wilder's original taste for the farm has clung to him, and his ample means have enabled him to become a leader in all branches of agriculture, and a president of various societies for its encouragement, many of which he has originated. In political life he has ascended to the Presidency of the State Senate, and to a Councillorship. He has also been President of the New England Historical Genealogical Society for the past ten years. And he has filled all these trusts *well*.

Mr. Wilder has had three wives. He married, 31st December, 1820, Tryphosa, daughter of Stephen Jewett of Rindge. She died on a visit home, 31st July, 1831, leaving four children. Of his second and third wives we beg leave to insert from his own reply to our inquiries:—

The relations which have existed between your town and myself were brought about by my marriages with the family of Capt. David Baker, from which I have been blessed with two loving wives.

Abigail Baker was married to Marshall Pinckney Wilder 29th August, 1833. She was a lady of intelligence, culture, and piety, eminently fitted to make a family happy. She became the mother of six children, three of whom—Abbie Tryphosa, Sarah Jane, and Samuel Locke are now dead. Three still live—William Henry, Jemima Richardson, and Grace Sherwin. Mrs. Wilder died of consumption at Aiken, S. C., 4th April, 1854.

Julia Baker, my third wife, was married to me 8th September, 1855, and here I must be permitted to record my appreciation of her estimable character as a lady of culture and piety, admirably qualified both as a wife and a mother to preside over and grace our family circle. She has two sons — Edward Baker and Marshall Pinckney.

Nor can I close this record without an expression of the gratitude and veneration I retain for the memory and virtues of the good and godly parents of these daughters, who have contributed so much to the happiness of my life.

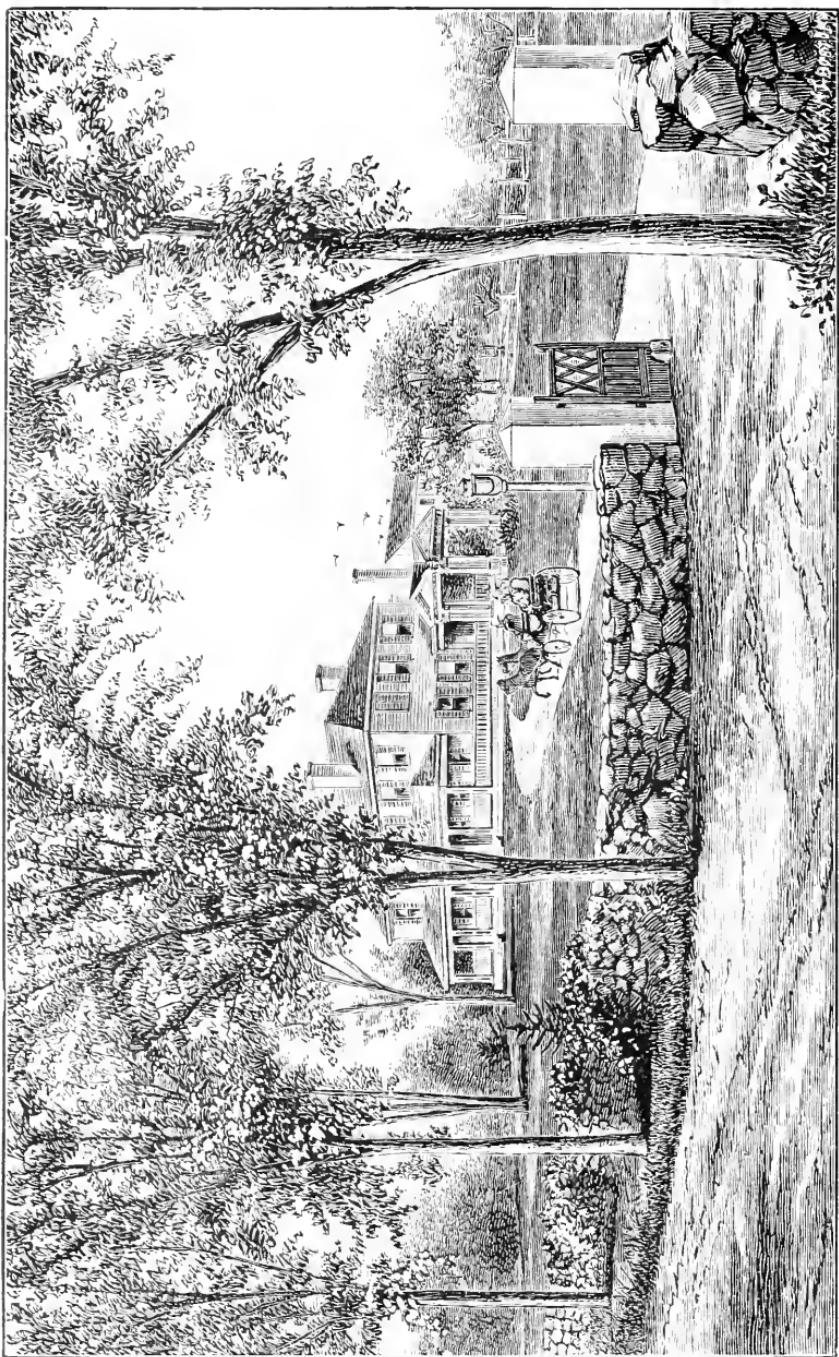
CHARLES WINSLOW, who married Harriet Newell Richardson of Franklin, and daughter of Eli M. and Melita (Norcross) Richardson, 27th May, 1839, was a native of Barre. He studied at Hopkins' Academy, Hadley, and two years in the Franklin Academy. He entered Amherst College in 1836, but left during the year for Oberlin. Thence he engaged in school teaching in West Virginia and other places. He died in 1843, leaving one child. His widow married Rev. Edward F. Dickinson of Amherst, and now city missionary in Chicago, where she still resides.

It is not out of place here to add to these 105 brief sketches the names of professional gentlemen not elsewhere mentioned who have become residents and have added their services to the value of the town. The settled ministers have been given in the sketches of the churches. The transient preacher's record is written in his work. Of lawyers, the town has never required a permanent resident. But its recent rapid growth and widely spreading business has encouraged GEORGE W. WIGGIN, Esq., to establish his office in town. His quiet affability and studious devotion to the interests of our citizens have won for him a birth-right among us.

Most of the early physicians in town have their proper place in the roll of sons already given. To them should be added: —

Dr. SPENCER PRATT, a native of Mansfield, came from Foxboro to Franklin about 1800, married, 23d November, 1801, Elizabeth Wood, and settled on the west side of the Common. He was of impulsive temperament, but quite a scholar and very helpful to youth of studious tastes. In the latter part of his life he removed to Woonsocket, R. I., and died there. His two sons are included in this chapter. He had one daughter who married and lives in Woonsocket.





"MILLER HALL."

Dr. AMORY HUNTING came into town about 1820, we think from Hopkinton, where his wife belonged. He opened an office, first at the house of Joel Daniels, where he endured a long and dangerous sickness; but he afterwards removed to the Center and built and occupied the house now Dr. King's. Soon after the settlement of Kansas he removed to Manhattan, in that territory, where he lately died.

Dr. JONATHAN MANN followed Dr. E. D. Miller on his removal to Dorchester. He was a native of Randolph and a member of Amherst College for two years. He remained but a few years and removed to Boston.

Dr. SELIM STANLEY of Attleboro followed, but his health compelled him to give up his profession, and not long after his life.

Dr. L. L. SCHAMMEL next occupied this office, but he also removed elsewhere after a brief stay.

Dr. SHADRACH ATWOOD came in 1844. He received the degree of M. D. at Harvard University in 1830, and, with the exception of one or two absences from town, has continued in practice here until the present time.

Dr. W. B. NOLAN began practice here in 1855 and has still a wide circle of patrons.

Dr. GEORGE KING came in 1857, and, excepting the time of his absence as surgeon in the Union army, has been and is busied with an extensive practice.

Dr. McGREGOR is the latest comer into the company of our physicians, and is already reported as successful in his profession.

Homeopathy has been represented by several practitioners, but their stay has been short. Dr. J. BLAKE, from Wrentham, has now an office, and as a physician of several years' experience has an increasing patronage. Others and of other schools may have practiced in town, but their names have not reached us.

It is but justice to add that the previous list by no means includes all the persons who have added to the respectability of the town. Such a list would be both long and invidious, and the author declines the task of selecting amongst the worthy men and women, when there have been so many whose memories are still green with the mantling of their fruitful lives. He remembers well the impression upon his youthful mind, that no town could furnish so large a number of grave and reverend men and "de-

vout women not a few," as gathered in the Franklin Sunday congregation, or of men so logical and spicy in debate as met for business in its town meetings. The very atmosphere was charged with an intellectual sharpness which quickened every intellect and compelled reasons for every conclusion. But all this cannot be translated in print, much as we would like to preserve it. Some genius may reproduce the social life in Franklin of Dr. Emmons' day — there are characters enough to equip a large volume — but he must be in a closer sympathy with its spirit than some who have attempted it, or his book will be a travesty.

A view of the private hospital of Dr. N. Miller is given on preceding page. It was quite a celebrated institution in the day before public hospitals had been founded, and had a very wide patronage. It was situated at River End, and was burnt not many months ago.





2



3



1



4



5

1. Walelo Daniels

2. Wm. R. Thayer 3. S. W. Richardson

4. Adm. D. Sargent. 5. Wm. Rockwood



2



3



1



4



5

1. A. G. John Chamber

Edward A. Rand

3. H. C. Greene

Paul B. Clark

5. James P. Ray



# THE CENTENNIAL DAY

AND ITS

CELEBRATION, JUNE 12, 1878.

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In the warrant for the annual meeting of the town 5th March, 1873, was this article:—

ART. 26. To see if the town will take any action with regard to the One Hundredth Anniversary of its Incorporation, and make suitable provision for celebrating the occasion by the choice of a committee to take the whole subject into consideration, and report their doings at a future town meeting, or act or do anything in relation to the subject.

On this article it was voted:—

That a committee of five be appointed by the town with full powers to consider the whole subject, to prepare a plan for an appropriate celebration of the anniversary referred to in this article, to secure statistics and do whatever they may deem necessary in the matter, and report to the town at a future town meeting, and that the following-named gentlemen shall constitute said committee, viz.: STEPHEN W. RICHARDSON, Esq., Rev. WILLIAM M. THAYER, WALDO DANIELS, WILLIAM ROCKWOOD, JOSEPH A. WOODWARD.

Mr. Woodward subsequently resigned and ADIN D. SARGENT was chosen in his place. The portraits of these gentlemen are given at the opening of this chapter.

The committee soon after organized by the choice of Waldo Daniels as Chairman, and William Rockwood Secretary. They also agreed to recommend a public celebration with a historical address, a dinner, and other suitable exercises, and requested Rev. Mortimer Blake, D. D., of Taunton, a son of Franklin, to prepare the address. This report was presented and accepted by the town. The committee at another meeting divided the collection of histor-

ical statistics among themselves and proceeded in their arduous work.

At the annual town meeting, March 5, 1877, it was "voted, that the sum of \$500 be granted by the town for the expenses connected with the centennial celebration and the publication of a history of the town, subject to the order of the committee."

At the annual meeting, March 4, 1878, the following gentlemen were added to the Centennial Committee as a general Committee of Arrangements for the celebration, viz.: Rev. A. ST. JOHN CHAMBRE, D. D., HENRY M. GREENE, JAMES P. RAY, PAUL B. CLARK, and Rev. E. A. RAND. The portraits of this added committee are given at the head of this chapter.

This general committee immediately proceeded to discuss and fix upon the final arrangements. They elected the following ladies to act with them: Mrs. E. E. BAKER, Mrs. W. C. WHITING, Mrs. A. G. METCALF, Mrs. A. A. FLETCHER, and Mrs. W. H. FISHER, to whom was specially committed the gathering and whole charge of a museum of antique articles illustrative of the history of the town. That they were earnest and successful beyond expectation an appended list of their collection will show. Other necessary sub-committees were appointed: Capt. Lewis R. Whitaker was chosen as Marshal, and enthusiasm in the approaching festival rapidly spread through the community as the day drew near.

The Centennial Anniversary came literally on March 2nd, but the usual inclemency of that season and the necessity of an out-of-door collation demanded a sunnier time. The committee, therefore, selected June 12th as most promising the conditions favorable to a successful celebration. The day proved, excepting a sudden shower in the afternoon, all that could be desired.

The Franklin *Register*, whose editor and proprietor, J. M. Stewart, had given his columns to a hearty sympathy with the occasion, gave a full and graphic description of the exercises, from which we extract the following sentences:—

At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 12th of June, 1878, the jubilant bells and the crashing and growling voices of the cannon announced that the ceremonies of the day were about to commence. The earliest riser looked out upon the streets fairly glorious with flags and every species of elegant decoration which could be devised, or the night hours permitted to be accomplished. Main street was almost canopied with the red, white and blue bunting,

stretching across from tree to tree, or from house-top to house-top. But far the most glorious of all were the decorations of some of the houses and blocks. At a very early hour the streets began to show throngs of people, and the arrivals from the cities and neighboring towns rapidly swelled the crowds until it was estimated that 10,000, and perhaps more, people were abroad to celebrate the grand occasion. At 10 o'clock came the Governor of the State and his staff, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, and the Executive Council. Hon. M. P. Wilder, Manager Clark and other officials of the New York and New England Railroad, and other distinguished guests.

#### PROCESSION.

A procession was forthwith organized under Marshal Whitaker and his Aids, and passed through the principal streets in the following order:—

Squadron of cavalry in ancient costume, D. Carson, Captain.

Chief Marshal Whitaker and Aids.

Ancient military fife and drum corps, G. I. Partridge, Leader.

Woonsocket Cornet Band.

J. C. Ray Engine Company, in new uniforms.

Barouches, with Committee of Arrangements, President, Orator, and Chaplain of the day, Governor and suite, and invited guests.

Assistant Marshal Peck and Aids.

West Medway Mechanics Band.

Grand Army, Post No. 70.

Children of the Public Schools, under L. I. Blake, Principal High School.

Ancient Order of Hibernians, Franklin and Milford branches.

#### TRADES PROCESSION.

(The leading representatives only are mentioned.)

E. Trowbridge, two teams of musical merchandise, and two business carriages.

F. B. Ray, display of felt goods.

F. W. Smith, carpenters working at benches.

C. L. Fales & Co., groceries.

F. A. B. King, carpenters at work.

J. M. Stewart, compositor setting types for Franklin *Register*.

C. F. Carter & Son, dry goods.

Farmer, Sherman & Co., cases of straw goods.

C. L. Stewart, printing press at work.

F. Rogers, blacksmiths at work with bellows and anvil.

J. W. Clark, machine running by belts attached to carriage wheel.

M. C. Darling, butcher.

J. M. Whiting, lumber.

J. O. Chilson, butcher, two teams.

J. McFarland, men making harnesses.

C. B. Craig, boots and shoes.

G. H. Butterworth, clothing.

A. McConkey, tailors at work.

Bier & Harris, clothiers.

R. B. Stewart, wheelwright.

G. O. Fuller, furniture.

Franklin Felting Mills, full display of feltings.

E. Waite, large exhibit of felts in contrasted colors.  
 City Mills, felt goods.

H. R. Jenks, grocer, two teams.

Hosie & Mann, coal, two teams.

M. M. Daniels, milk team.

A. Clark, ice cart.

S. Hubbard, carpenter.

J. P. Ray, ten yokes of oxen from his farm.

J. Hood, men at the forge and shoeing a horse (begun and finished during the ride).  
 C. Haggerty, harness shop.

Heaton & Stebbins, men dressing a granite doorstep.

Mrs. W. Bullock, girls at work on millinery.

S. W. Thayer, boots and shoes, and a boot for the biggest foot at the next Centennial.

J. P. & J. G. Ray, four teams with the various goods of their mills, also milk team.  
 I. P. Ray, a wagon of old furniture, with an old family, and girl at the spinning-wheel.

In the procession was represented 1778 by two gentlemen and two ladies, mounted on side-saddles and pillion, and dressed in “ye ancient costume.”

This long cavalcade passed in review before the Governor and the town’s guests in front of the Congregational church, where the literary exercises were to be held, and then the latter entered the Congregational church.

The house was appropriately and tastefully decorated within and without with flags, mottoes, and flowers, under the superintendence of the ladies’ committee — Mrs. C. Clafin, Mrs. St. J. Chambre, Mrs. W. Gilmore, and Miss Hattie Daniels. It is needless to say that the house was completely filled.

#### ORDER OF EXERCISES.

After an organ voluntary and the singing of “the Pilgrim Fathers” by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. Edwin Trowbridge, and reading the Scriptures and prayer by Rev. W. M. Thayer, chaplain of the day, the following centennial hymn by Rev. Mr. Thayer was sung: —

Great God! before whose throne of power  
 We bow in this memorial hour;  
 From heights unknown Thy gracious hand  
 Sifts years as golden grains of sand.

The children live — the fathers sleep;  
 The fathers sowed — the children reap;  
 A harvest waves, and sheaves of gold  
 We garner from these fields of old.

Not one is here of all the men  
Who "bore the heat and burden" then;  
New scenes inspire; new people meet;  
New faces smile; new voices greet.

Though century in Thy life is small,  
Great God! Thy goodness crowns it all;  
Thy glory in this span appears;  
We praise Thee for a HUNDRED YEARS.

The President of the day, Henry M. Greene, Esq., then welcomed the assembly in the following words:—

**FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS:** By acceding to the request of the committee having the proceedings of the day in charge, it becomes my pleasant duty to address you with words of welcome. Before doing so, please allow me to indulge in a few preliminary remarks.

We are assembled at this time to celebrate the one-hundredth return of the day when the Great and General Court of Massachusetts (recently His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay) endowed the West Precinct of Wrentham with the privileges and immunities of a town, and was pleased to bestow upon it the honored name of Franklin. It will be remembered that our municipal birthday occurred during the stormy days of the Revolution, when the struggle for independence hung trembling in the balance. Through the abiding faith of our patriotic ancestors in the justness of their cause, and their unyielding persistence in its defense, better councils prevailed in the mother country, and the United States became one of the family of nations.

During the first century of our corporate life—the century now closed—what wonderful changes have occurred in our country. We have passed through another war with Great Britain, and also that other war which was proclaimed to "exist by the act of Mexico." We have come out unscathed in our national life from the perils of a gigantic rebellion, that has no parallel to its proportions in the history of the world. In population we have increased from 3,000,000 to 40,000,000 of people. It is well, too, to bear in mind the wonderful and beneficent advance that has been made during this period in the interests of civilization and peace; the steamboat of Fulton, without which the mighty current of the Mississippi could never have been stemmed, nor a passage made between Boston and Liverpool in seven days instead of forty; the railroad, while furnishing unlimited aid to commerce, assures the unity and permanence of the Republic through all time to come by its omnipresent and irrefragable network of steel and iron; the telegraph, annihilating both time and distance, furnishing the news of yesterday in advance to the morning papers from the

uttermost parts of the earth: the telephone, now in the infancy of its invention, in its perfection it may surpass the telegraph: the phonograph, registering and preserving the spoken words, with all their infinite variety of tone and expression, to reproduce them at will at any time in the future — a hundred or even a thousand years hence.

But while we recount the wonderful changes which have been so beneficial to our nation and the world at large, we do not forget the changes that have occurred within our own particular borders. There was a time when the Sunday worshipers could be comfortably seated in one church. Now, within view from the mansion of its late reverend and Christian minister, Dr. Emmons, five spires point their way heavenward. The noon-house, with its hole in the roof for the exit of gas and smoke and its capacious brick hearth in the center for charcoal, has given way for the more comfortable stove or furnace in the church. It was not till the early part of the last century that “the deacon’s one-horse shay” made its appearance. Before that time our grandmothers went to meeting and to the store and even made more lengthy journeys on horseback, seated upon pillions behind their husbands. The iron plow has fought its way to public favor, in spite of the opposition of the farmers of the last generation. The jenny has banished our grandmother’s spinning-wheels to the garret, where they are now preserved as the curious relics of a by-gone age. Instead of consuming two or more days in going to Boston or Providence, we take the railroad to either city in the morning, transact our business, and get home before sunset.

Fearing that I am wearying your patience and that peradventure I may have intruded upon the field, if not upon the allotted time of the orator of the day, I will not detain you longer from the intellectual repast which has mainly induced your attendance upon this centennial of the incorporation of our goodly town.

It only remains for me to say that by direction of the Committee of Arrangements (and it is with great pleasure that I obey their injunction,) I hereby tender to you all — to our honored guest, His Excellency Governor Rice, to Lieutenant-Governor Knight, and the other members of our State government, now present — to you our friends who have come from your distant homes to spend with us, we trust, a happy day — to our townsmen and neighbors all — a cordial and affectionate welcome to the amenities and festivities of the present occasion.

The original act of the incorporation of the town was then read by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Hon. H. B. Pierce, after which “ye antient choir” in the gallery as of old sang “Majesty” under the lead of Mr. Frank Ware and accompanied only by “stringed instruments.”

The oration by Rev. Mortimer Blake, D. D., occupied an hour and twenty minutes. It is printed in full elsewhere.

At the close of his address the orator read the XLIVth Psalm from an original copy of President Dunster's version of the Old Bay Psalm book, 1650, and Mr. Ware "pitched the tune" of York upon the veritable pitch-pipe used by Dea. John Whiting, the first chosen chorister of the church. The people sang three verses in unison after the old way, and the choir and organ joined with all the parts in the last stanza —

We, with our ears have heard, O God,  
Our fathers have us told,  
What works Thon wroughtest in their days,  
Ev'n in ye days of old.

How Thy hand drave ye heathen out,  
Displanted them Thou hast;  
How Thou ye people did'st afflict,  
And out them Thou did'st cast.

For by their sword they did not get  
The land's possession,  
Nor was it their own arm that did  
Work their salvation.

But Thy right hand, Thine arm also,  
Thy countenance of light;  
Because that of Thine own good will  
Thou did'st in them delight.

The singing of "America" and the benediction by the chaplain closed the exercises in the church.

The procession was again formed of those who held tickets to the dinner, and marched to a large pavilion on Emmons' Park, or the ancient Common, where plates had been placed for 1,200 guests. It was not long before every seat was occupied, and a vigorous dental activity prevailed for half an hour.

It is not possible to report all the good things said at the table. The programme of speeches intended could not be fully carried out for want of time, even if a sudden shower had not delayed the exercises. But judges of wide experience declared that they had never heard a richer flow of wit and wisdom. We are again indebted to the indefatigable Mr. Stewart of the *Franklin Register* for such reports as are here given.

The President of the day welcomed the company as follows:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: The limited time remaining warns me that I must be very brief in my introductory remarks. I will offer only one thought regarding the day we celebrate.

Prominent above all others stands the sentiment that this celebration is in honor of those men who, under Divine guidance, by labors and sacrifices, laid deep the foundation of all our blessings. Let us hope that the record of the century upon which we have entered may show as clearly to those who shall participate in the centennial celebrations of the future that we are not unworthy descendants of the men we honor to-day.

It is my pleasant privilege to again tender to all in behalf of the town and of the Committee of Arrangements, a sincere and heartfelt welcome to the remaining festivities of the occasion, and to introduce Waldo Daniels, Esq., as Toast-master, who will read the first regular toast.

Mr. Daniels then read:—

1. *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

Mr. Green proceeded:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: Franklin is honored to-day by the presence of the Governor of our State, one of a long line of illustrious men who have so ably filled the Executive office, and of whom Massachusetts is so justly proud. I am highly honored with this opportunity of presenting to you His Excellency, Gov. Alexander H. Rice.

Upon the subsidence of the applause, Governor Rice arose, and after complimenting in high terms the cordial reception and the whole arrangements and exercises of the celebration, proceeded substantially to say:—

As I looked out into the faces of the congregation in the church this morning, it was about the most interesting spectacle that I have seen. I said to myself, now this is a characteristic New England assembly. In the cities we gather of all sorts and conditions and nationalities, but when I came into your audience this morning and looked around, I saw that unmistakable type of genuine New England citizenship with which I would be willing without any guarantee to trust the most sacred things. We see here something of the value of what was done for us by our fathers a century or two ago. We cannot look around upon this New England civilization and suppose that it is in any sense or degree an accident, or that it is something that has happened or may be done over again in a short space of time.

The civilization of New England to-day is a growth, and a growth

from those principles that were planted when civil society was organized here. Whoever seeks for the secret of what New England is to-day must go back to those days which you, men and women, and we who have the honor and privilege of being with you to-day, are celebrating. I saw in your village what is the natural outcome of this civilization. I saw those pleasant homes varying in size, but unvarying in the evidences of comfort. I observed your well-kept streets, your well-painted houses—all significant of the ease and comfort which characterizes an intelligent and virtuous community. I saw, also, your school-houses; I saw that noble institution of learning which is an eternal and enduring monument of the liberality and foresight of one of your citizens.

I saw the spires of your churches, showing that you are convinced of the fact that it is not sufficient to train the intellect alone, but that the heart also must be trained, so that the two may go together. I congratulate you on all these pleasing things, but I beg of you to hold fast to the principles which they all represent and without which they must fall—without which they cannot exist. I beg to remind you of what the orator of the day said when he gave us that rapid and brief glance over the past, of the changes that have taken place in the last hundred years—not only in institutions, but in the state of the arts, of learning, of scientific discovery, and in the phase of the world.

Although in many senses these changes are progress, yet let me remind you that they render our lives more and more likely to be absorbed in the common incidents of our daily life, so that we are withdrawn from the contemplation of nature and of those principles which are akin to nature, the influence of which is to elevate our manhood, ennable our natures and make us braver, more aspiring, and worthy people. We must, therefore, resist the influences of these new-discovered elements of progress. We must adapt our education to them, make it more and more thorough, and our religion more and more a thing of practical life.

You will understand me, of course, that in speaking of religion I am not speaking of theology—there is a great, a wide difference between them. Men differ in their theology as widely as the latitudes of opinion, but men always and everywhere agree in the true spirit of religion. Whatever warms the heart, whatever teaches men and women to love that which is good, that which is pure, that which is noble, and of good report—to love their neighbors as themselves and, above all, to love and worship God as the first duty of life—that is the religion which all can adopt, and which, when adopted, will elevate the society in which it prevails.

Therefore, wherever we plant our churches and our school-houses, we must remember that they are twin sisters who ought never to be separated; but they are only external symbols of the two parts of our nature which must be educated, and educated

symmetrically, in order to bring out that type of noble and illustrious manhood which it was the aspiration of our fathers and is the mission of New England to propagate and develop to the end of time.

With renewed thanks for his cordial reception, His Excellency closed with the warmest applause.

2. *Our Mother Town*—Wrentham. Franklin, her first-born, forgets not what she owes her parent, and on this anniversary of her birth gratefully acknowledges her obligation.

Samuel Warner, Esq., Town Clerk of Wrentham, responded:—

The little west precinct of Wrentham, which first saw the light 141 years ago when Robert Pond and forty-six others petitioned the Great and General Court that they be set off as a separate township; because they had, as they said, "conflicted with great hardships and difficulties with respect to their attendance on the public worship of God, by reason of the extraordinary distance of their habitations from the meeting-house in Wrentham;" that little precinct of some forty families is to-day an enterprising, busy, thriving community of some three thousand people, whose first century as a township this year completes.

In answer to this petition, the Committee of the General Court suggested a parish. The old town readily voted that, with the boundaries which, with little change, if any, were adopted forty-one years afterward, when the town was incorporated, and which, I think, remain the same to-day. That little band of worshipers (twenty-six church members) to whom Haven, Barnum and Emmons preached a hundred years ago, and for whom one small house sufficed, has been succeeded by some five or six societies whose elegant houses of worship attest the greater wealth, if not the greater piety, of the present day.

This was then the west precinct or parish in Wrentham. Nathanael Emmons, the famous Dr. Emmons, whom some in this assembly have seen and heard, and of whom everybody is thinking to-day, was, good Mr. Bean says, "to the great joy of the inhabitants," ordained, 21st April, 1773, pastor of this west parish in Wrentham; and our old records of Wrentham say that Rev. Nathanael Emmons, of Wrentham, was married to Deliverance French, of Braintree, in 1775. The long life of that distinguished man so linked those days with these after times as to give his little parish perpetual life; and here it is to-day.

In 1773 it was estimated that there were more people in the west parish than in the whole town of Wrentham when that was set off. The time had come for a renewal of the former petition. The unanimous report of a committee of such men as Dea. Thomas Man, Capt. Lemuel Kollock and Jabez Fisher that "the inhabitants of the west precinct in this town be set off as a separate

township by themselves" was adopted, 16th February, 1778. The General Court followed by an act of incorporation, March 2, and Franklin began to exist. As the history of *our* first century was also *your* history, so we have felt the strength of the family tie ever since you went out from under our roof and set up for yourselves.

We have lived peaceably, like good neighbors, having no quarrels about boundaries, nor even any lawsuits about paupers. Let us hope it may continue to be so in the centuries to come.

I feel, sir, that we have a right to boast to-day. We claim praise for so bringing up this fair child, of whom so many fine things have been said and of whom so many more will be said before the sun goes down. Yes, sir, the mother town shares in all these words of praise and compliment. We claim that the fame of Emmons, of the Fishers, the Manns, the Metcalfs, and others, is ours as well as yours. The old town gladly bears witness to the fidelity of the younger, to those sentiments of patriotism and honor which reflect so much credit upon both. What you have done for religion, for education, for temperance, for the Union, for many benevolent and industrial enterprises, is surely worthy of honorable mention here. Especially let us commend that tolerant spirit — so different, perhaps, from that which prevailed a hundred years ago.

I will add that the old town has given freely of her substance to her children — Franklin, Foxboro and Norfolk, and has seen them all well-to-do in the world, while she herself has some broad acres left, and is still fair to look upon. Except our old mother, Dedham, none can show a better family record.

3. *Our Fathers.* We reverence the memory of the departed, and we welcome on this occasion the grey-haired sires of Franklin with all their early reminiscences. Of them it may be truly said, "multitude of years teach wisdom."

Hon. M. M. Fisher of Medway, but a son of Franklin, responded: —

MR. PRESIDENT: According to the State census of 1875, there were then living in Franklin 127 men between the ages of 60 and 92 years. With few exceptions, these are your resident fathers of to-day. Considering that your recent growth has attracted many younger men, the proportion of *one* old man in eleven of your population speaks well for the salubrity of your climate, and the good habits of your people. Besides these, there are many non-resident fathers whose right hands would sooner forget their cunning than they ever forgot this Jerusalem of their birth and of their early joy.

You remember that Daniel Webster, a native of another Franklin, once said, and without any disparagement to his native State,

"New Hampshire is a good State to emigrate from." Now, it must not be inferred, because Horace Mann, a native of our own Franklin, and now equally honored in immortal bronze with "the great expounder" on the grounds of our State Capital, and because men of lesser note have emigrated from you, that this detracts anything from the luster of their native town; for their distinction achieved in other fields may have been the direct result of their birth and early training among you.

Time would fail me to mention even by name all the fathers, living and dead, who have now such distinction, either at home or abroad, as reflects honor upon the place of their nativity. Some of this class going abroad, drawn by love of kindred and early associations, have returned to their "native heath," bringing their sheaves with them. New York, while it attracted and still retains some of your sons, returned others, who, though fathers in age, are *Greene* to-day. At the beginning of the late civil war, South Carolina reluctantly spared one of her merchant princes to return to his old home, and you find him here loyal and true, with brothers upon either side of him, and all now honored as among the young fathers of your town. New Hampshire, though it did attract one of your sons to become the founder of their great city of spindles, yet nothing could repress his love for the home of his youth. So he becomes the founder of your noble academy, one of your churches, and the chief patron of your public library.

But besides native sons returned to become fathers among you, how many sons of others have come to be fathers with them. Do I see before me an adopted father prominent in all business enterprises, who by taking a single *K-napp* within your borders, afterwards became enamored with your whole town? After the good *Joseph* had planted corn on the fertile banks of your little Nile, did not the whole tribe of brothers, their wives and their little ones come down to dwell in this Goshen, to live and to die with you, and ever since have not the *Rays* of light shone brighter all around you? Did not one *Caleb*, coming *Nye* to this land of promise enter in? Did he not find the grapes of Eschol sweet to his taste, and did he not *Cleve* to the *land* with all his heart?

Franklin has, indeed, been hospitable to strangers, and strange mont sent you down a modest *Stewart* and a *Russegue*, Middle-would it be had she not entertained some angels unawares. Ver-boro an *Atwood* and a *King*, Blackstone a *Nolan* to heal your sick, Bellingham a *Freeman* to moderate your public meetings, Stoneham a *Squires* to manage your schools, and Connecticut a young Father *Stewart* to *Register* your good deeds and report your progress to the outside world. Once, when waiting for more to come, behold a *Waite* came and a whole class of new industries sprang up, as if by magic. Though he must wait patiently to be

ranked as a father in years, he is known and *Felt* to be a father in your largest business industry.

Among your native sons, while some aspired to distinction in civil and professional life, others chose to be simply *men of straw*. Of this class a quartette at least have reaped as well as strawed, and neither the character nor the paper of your Daniels and Greene, your Thayer and Morse need any endorsement from me. Your master-builder, after long years of service in his chosen vocation, has recently added *musical* claims to rank as father, perhaps, to a large posterity.

Though many of your fathers have "stayed by the stuff," no sin of Achan stains the Babylonish garments, the golden wedge or the silver shekels which adorn their tents. Among your intelligent farmers a Richardson makes your taxes and writes your deeds and wills; a Clark, a Deacon Adams, serving often in affairs of church and state, and many other farmers in years now cultivate their ancestral acres.

But what shall I say of those elder fathers, of fourscore years and more—a Knapp, a Bullard, a Gilmore, a Daniels, a Pond, a Holbrook, a Fisher, a Paine, a King and others, the scattering remnant of past generations. The events of the day, my aged friends, have brought past events before you in quick succession. Where the beautiful village now stands, adorned with churches and stately dwellings, schools, banks, mills, shops, railroad and telegraph, you once saw, and I saw, but a dozen houses and families—with the old church, bleak and barren without, and cheerless and cold within. Together we recall the old noon-houses, with stone hearth and warm coals; the hundred horse-sheds flanking the meeting-house and Common; the tall Lombardy poplars, with spire-pointed limbs more dead than living. We have heard on our farms the bleating of sheep, whose washing and shearing were holiday times for the boys. In our houses, though bare of carpets and pianos, the buzz of the spinning-wheel and the flying-shuttle foretold the new jackets of homespun to protect us against the snows of winter. The Bible and catechism, Bunyan and Baxter, with a volume from the old Franklin library, supplied the family with solid food for the intellectual man. A little post-office in the mother-town of Wrentham detained a few letters and papers, brought weekly for distribution at the store of Asa and Davis Thayer, chiefly on Sunday noons, before the day of Sunday-schools.

Your ears were greeted with sharp and angry controversies between Federalists and Republicans about the embargo and the gunboat system, the policies of Adams and Jefferson, the treason and trial of Burr, and the War of 1812.

After alluding to the many home changes and the time when

the Ponds and Fishers could have out-voted all the rest, Mr. Fisher continued : —

A prolific emigration has borne many of your sons to the town I represent (Medway). Deacons Allen and Blake, and Uncle Elias, all of blessed memory, sleep to-day. But we have living a Ray, a Fuller, a Daniels — municipal fathers all; besides Metcalfs and Bullards, Ponds and Whites, a Clark, a Boyd, a Woodward, all fathers, but proud to have been your sons in former days.

With a tender reference to his own attachments, the speaker closed with the sentiment : —

May the young fathers and mothers of Franklin understand their real mission, and resolve that their young children, becoming the future fathers of the town, shall excel in all grace and wisdom even the best of all the fathers who have gone before them.

4. *Our Sons.* May they prove themselves worthy descendants of a sterling ancestry, emulating the thrifit and sturdy integrity of the fathers.

George A. Adams, Esq., of Attleboro, after a graceful salutation to his native town, said : —

We have good reason to entertain deep gratitude and interest in the welfare of this town, for we have had the advantage of her schools and educational institutions, and have been surrounded by her healthy moral influences. And to-day the officials and fathers of the town may congratulate themselves that not a town in the State of the same size can show less native criminals than the little town of Franklin.

Mr. President, we can offer no better evidence of the loyalty of the sons of Franklin than the band of veterans who are assembled with us to-day. Their heroic deeds and sacrifices are within the memory of most of those present. I need not recall that wave of patriotism which swept over our country in 1861. The sons of Franklin, under the command of Captain Rockwood, joined with the Wrentham Home Guards, and on this very Common took their first lessons in the tactics of war. Many of these very men did noble service on the field of battle in the ranks of the old Eighteenth Massachusetts. But all of those gallant soldiers are not here to-day. Many lie buried on the fields of Virginia, where they nobly gave their lives that we in prosperity under a solid Union might live. May the memory of the fallen be made especially sacred on this day, and may it never be said in the future that Franklin is unmindful of their services. May old Franklin continue in her prosperity. May her educational institutions in-

crease in usefulness. May the busy hum of the factory loom and the din of industry resound throughout the place until she as a town shall have obtained a foremost rank in the old Commonwealth.

#### 6. *Our Daughters.*

Mrs. H. M. Miller of Providence, formerly Miss Harriet M. Partridge, replied in earnest language in behalf of her native town. We regret we cannot produce her speech.

7. *The President of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society.* We welcome his presence not only as the official head of this association, but as the friend and constant patron of the great moral and industrial interests of our land, who in his acquisition of treasures has borne from Franklin two of her fairest daughters. Verily he should speak on this occasion and give an account of himself.

Hon. Marshal P. Wilder responded:—

MR. PRESIDENT: Oh! yes, yes, I wish I could speak as I ought in response to the kind sentiments with which you have honored me. But, sir, I am somewhat in the condition of certain virgins who appeared on another festive occasion without much oil in their lamps; and then, sir, the flame of my lamp is already flickering in its socket, and will shine but dimly in the presence of so many luminaries of learning and eloquence whom I see around me. Still I beg to assure you that I am most happy, *happy, HAPPY* to be here and to participate in the ceremonies of this interesting celebration.

I thank you for your recognition of the society over which I have the honor to preside—a society whose mission is to gather up, preserve and transmit to future generations all that can be known of the history, progress and influence of our beloved New England, in which your good town has played so important a part. When we reflect upon what our New England has done for our country and the world, we should remember with undying affection the homes and sacrifices of our fathers, and the benign examples and influences that have made us what we are. When we reflect on what the good old Commonwealth, thank God! the accomplished statesman and Christian gentleman—our beloved Governor Rice, who honors this occasion with his presence—what they have done for the diffusion of knowledge, the spread of the gospel, the extension of human freedom, the support of constitutional liberty, and whatever tends to the advancement and happiness of the human race, I feel deeply the obligation which rests upon us, to preserve and transmit unimpaired its history to those who are to come after us, and I commend, with all my heart, occasions like the present as eminently adapted to this purpose. Mr. President, we live in an age

of astonishing activity and enterprise — an age when science, art and civilization seem to have been roused from the sleep of centuries, and to have commenced a new era in human advancement. In all this progress your good old town of Franklin has furnished her full share of distinguished men and noble women — her Emmons, Fishers, Blakes, Thayers, Manns, Millers, Richardsons, Deans, Metcalfs, Bacons, Bakers, Rays, Smalleys, Greenes, and others of fair fame, which she has sent out as ornaments to society and blessings to our land.

You have also referred to me in connection with the great rural and industrial interests of our land, the importance of which I fully realize.

When I consider the vast extent of our country — embracing almost every variety of soil and climate, capable of producing almost all the various fruits of the habitable globe, its rapidly-increasing population, destined, according to the best estimate, to reach more than a hundred millions of souls, before some who now hear me shall be carried to their graves, and that all of these are to be fed from our soil, I am conscious of the importance of the mission I have assumed. Mr. President, I am very fond of everything which pertains to rural life and rural improvement. I cannot remember the time when I did not love the cultivation of the soil. I am very fond of fruits and flowers — those overflows of God's bounty to mankind, and I love to be remembered as one who in a long life of labor and of love has done something to improve and adorn mother earth, something which shall contribute to the comfort and happiness of those who are to follow us, something that shall live when I have passed away, and pardon me for saying that I fondly cherish the hope that I may be remembered in many a beautiful tree, many a luscious fruit, many a lovely flower when I am sleeping in the dust. Mr. President, there is another allusion in your sentiment which touches me more tenderly, and to which I am most happy to respond, and I plead guilty to the soft impeachment of having carried off some of the choicest treasures of Franklin, and I cannot refrain from thus publicly acknowledging the deep sense of gratitude I owe her for the two fair daughters — for to my eyes they seemed the fairest of the fair — wives who have been the solace and comfort of my life, and the pride, joy and blessing of my household. If a virtuous woman is far above the price of rubies — surely I have been doubly blest — rich indeed by the inheritance of their loves.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for the kind manner in which you have received my remarks, and I give you as my sentiment on the occasion — *the town of Franklin*. May it prosper in the future as in the past — rising higher and higher in the scale of human attainments, and, like Franklin himself, be the almoner of countless blessings to the world.

9. *Dr. Emmons' Ministry.*

The response from Rev. Jacob Ide, Jr., of Mansfield, and grandson of the venerable divine of Franklin, showed that the shrewdness and quick wit of the Emmons' stock has not deteriorated at all in its second remove. Not even the calm and clear-eyed self-possession of the paternal character could (h) *Ide* its flashings, as the following report of his speech will show:—

The great difference between the past and the present is made strikingly apparent by one single fact. Formerly we were supposed to gain our ideas of things by examining complete specimens; but now we are furnished with only a small sample. It is in accordance with this custom, I suppose, that I am placed on exhibition here as a relic of Dr. Emmons' ministry, and am expected to represent it by contrast.

I had hoped that Edison would have perfected his phonograph so that it could have been placed upon Dr. Emmons' tombstone and he could have spoken for himself. I confess, sir, that I am proud of my grandfather; but I am afraid, if he were here to-day, that he would not be willing to reciprocate the compliment. And yet it is a good thing to have a great man for your grandfather, for when you are overcome by a sense of your own littleness, you can comfort yourself with the hope of becoming great hereafter through the irresistible force of heredity. Dr. Emmons' ministry extended over more than half a century. Mine has not yet reached its first quarter. Who knows, sir, what I may be able to achieve if I am permitted to run the ministerial race as long as he did? It is the home-stretch, sir, that tells the story.

Moreover, I am not a little comforted when I think how few there are who would feel like putting on the cocked hat, or acknowledge themselves big enough to fill out that well-remembered suit of small clothes. If we would reproduce Dr. Emmons we must find a head like his—a battery of thought sending out startling shocks for limp theologians; a heart like his—all aflame with loyalty to truth and right; a body like his—in subjection to the higher impulses of his nature, as if it were indeed a temple of the Holy Ghost.

Dr. Emmons' ministry must certainly be regarded as a *successful* ministry, for he made his people do as he pleased. If that be not a successful ministry, I do not know what is. I know of a large number of ministers who would like to succeed in that same way, and if I thought that putting on a cocked hat and a suit of small clothes would make my people “wheel into line” as his did, I would don them at once. But I feel sad to think how much besides the externals would be lacking in my case.

Dr. Emmons' ministry was acknowledged to be an *intellectual*

ministry. They who went up to that old church on the Sabbath found a minister in it who did his own thinking. And he did much to make his hearers close and independent thinkers. He made them think to some purpose—what they were, where they were, and where they were going. He subjected them to an immense pressure on the brain. From that high pulpit he fired the solid truth down through their heads into their hearts. He did not arrest attention by

“Words of learned length and thundering sound,”

but by pure thoughts in pure, simple Saxon terms. His Sabbath sermon was the sensation of the week. Men carried home from the sanctuary something that was not only worth remembering, but something that was not easy to forget. He was a penetrating preacher. He had sharp points to his arguments. He was an author that had authority. He addressed the understanding and confidently appealed to the reason of his hearers, and Franklin may well commemorate to-day the educational forces which Dr. Emmons originated and projected.

Dr. Emmons' ministry was also a *discriminating* ministry. He brought into sharp outline the difference between truth and error. He was never guilty of confounding the finite with the infinite, never caught in the absurd experiment of pushing the latter into the limits of the former. He was reverently conscious of the distance between the creature and the Creator, and never so far forgot himself as to think that he was the Creator and God the creature. His theology was a system, not a speculative jumble. His arguments were like express-trains going from premise to conclusion without stopping at any way-stations. No one who started with him on his trains of reasoning ever found himself furnished with a ticket for one place and left at another.

But Dr. Emmons' ministry was, best of all, fearless, conscientious and scriptural. He received the message which came from heaven as the best that could be obtained and the only one needed. He never thought it any part of his duty to apologize for the divine utterances. He never tried to revise the statutes of the Almighty. A “thus saith the Lord” was to him the end of all controversy. Whenever he thought it his duty to fire a hot shot into the camp of error, he sent it right along without stopping to cool it. He made no allowance for shrinkage in such terms as eternal and everlasting, but had perfect confidence that the divine measurements would hold out under all circumstances. He rejoiced in the fact that God rules the universe and considered it the noblest attitude of men to bow at once to the declared will of God. I am thoroughly convinced, sir, that the great secret of his power was his fidelity to the truth. He received it humbly and obedi-

ently, and labored with his might to induce others to receive it and obey it in the same spirit.

When I see the sliding theological scale of modern ministers — when I see them slipping from one position to another, uncertain where they are — now here, now there, oftenest nowhere — I am moved to wish them all gathered around the tombstone of Dr. Emmons, where, through perfected phonograph placed upon it, they could listen to the well-remembered tones of the old preacher as he should repeat those familiar words of a greater preacher — “Make full proof of thy ministry. Meditate upon these things. Give thyself wholly to them. Take heed to thyself and to thy doctrine — that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand !”

#### 10. *The Present Ministry of Franklin.*

The lively reply of Rev. E. A. Rand, just sundering his connection with the Congregational church as its acting pastor, has also to our regret passed into the great company of the unwritten.

#### 11. *Horace Mann: a native of Franklin and first Secretary of the Board of Education of Massachusetts.*

Prof. B. Pickman Mann, of Cambridge, youngest son of Hon. Horace Mann, responded : —

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN : The honor in which the memory of my father is held cannot but be gratifying to me. If I seek to discover the cause of this honorable remembrance, I find it in the recognition of the work which my father did, and of the spirit which animated him in his work. That work had both a physical and a spiritual side to it. The physical work need never to be done again, but the same spirit will ever find an opportunity for its exercise. I may be pardoned, then, if I endeavor to describe the spirit in which my father worked.

As a lawyer, he held to the principle that it is never right to defend the wrong. Dissenting vehemently from the opinion of Lord Brougham, that a lawyer must sacrifice himself, his country, nay even honor and justice itself, if need be, for the defense of his client, he held that an advocate loses his highest power when he loses the conscious conviction that he is contending for the truth.

As a public officer he showed a spirit which I cannot better describe than by quoting two passages from his private journal ; one written when appointed Secretary of the Board of Education (June 10th, 1837) : “I now stand in a new relation to the world. Henceforth, as long as I hold this office, I devote myself to the supremest welfare of mankind upon earth.” The other, written April 18th, 1838, “The Legislature have fixed my salary, as Secretary of

the board, at \$1,500 ; which will probably leave about \$500 for my ordinary expenses and services, after defraying the extraordinary expenses. Well, one thing is certain, if I live and have my health, I will be revenged on them. I will do them more than \$1,500 worth of good.

As a citizen he held that no form of government is so bad as a republic, if the members are not educated morally as well as intellectually. And as an educator he sought, more than has yet been recognized generally, to promote that moral education which is now so sadly behindhand in our community.

### 12. *The Public Schools of Franklin.*

Rev. S. W. Squires, of the School Committee, gave an enthusiastic appeal for popular education, which we cannot produce.

### 13. *Dr. Oliver Dean and Higher Education.*

Rev. Dr. Chambrè, pastor of Grace church, and President of the Trustees of the Dean Academy, was most appropriately called upon to respond. After a brief acknowledgment of his interest in the occasion, Dr. Chambrè proceeded :—

Dr. Dean was born in Franklin in 1783. This was only five years after the incorporation of the town, whose completed hundred years of legal existence we celebrate to-day. His childhood, and youth, and early manhood, were thus spent amid the toils and roughness of a new country and sparse population. To this, in a large measure, we attribute the ruggedness of character for which he was so noticeable, his straightforward frankness and direct honesty of speech and purpose. Then, his early life was spent under the ministry of Dr. Emmons—that Nestor of the pulpit of New England in other days. Here again we detect causes which must have operated powerfully in developing the strength of will and noble integrity which always characterized Dr. Dean. Although never, at least from a very youthful period, fully sympathising with Dr. Emmons theologically, and at length asserting his doctrinal disagreement by word and action, Dr. Dean cherished the memory of Dr. Emmons, and spoke in the most affectionate and respectful terms of his life and labors to the last.

In the providence of God, Dr. Dean was able to practice his profession only eight years. He was compelled to relinquish it then, owing to shattered health, so shattered that his friends despaired of his life. But he lived to the ripe old age of 88. He was not an idler. Appointed successively to the superintendence of the Medway cotton factory, and the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, he became at last extensively identified with manufacturing interests, and accumulated a large fortune. This he devoted in

great part to the promotion of what was nearest to his heart, the religion of Jesus Christ and the education of youth. He was substantially the founder and principal support of the Universalist parish of this town. His gifts to that parish reach nearly \$60,000. To him the parish is almost wholly indebted for its present magnificent church. The noble and costly building which bears his honored name, "Dean Academy," is nearly altogether the outflow of his wise beneficence. To that institution, from first to last, he devoted between \$200,000 and \$300,000, that it might be well established, and be a perpetually increasing blessing to the youth of this country. He deeply felt that education must be as thorough and complete as possible, if the integrity and glory of a republic should be maintained. He recognized that institutions of a higher grade were indispensable to the highest interests and usefulness of our public school system. This, unquestionably, is true. The public schools of this town are stronger and better because Dean Academy is here; just as, all over this broad land, the public schools, and all subordinate schools, are better and stronger because of the influence exerted upon them by the colleges and universities.

Dr. Dean did not, however, confine himself to the church here, or to Dean Academy. He gave about \$100,000 to Tufts College. He gave generously to the public library of this town, and to that of Medway. He gave largely and wisely in various directions, and did not neglect the relatives who had claims on his heart and purse.

Not to delay, Mr. President, I think that, perhaps, sufficient has been said to rank Dr. Dean as a public benefactor, and to entitle his name to go down the history of Franklin side by side with the man you all delight to honor, who was also his friend and contemporary. Dr. Dean's was a strong, noble, honest and withal a genial and loving character. Too near, it may be, to be fully appreciated now. I do not doubt that as the years pass he will be more and more recognized and revered as one of the sons of Franklin, of whom she will be forever proudest.

#### 14. *Franklin's Educated and Professional Men.*

Rev. Albert M. Richardson, who had traveled from Lawrence, Kansas, on purpose to attend the centennial of his native town, most properly stood forth as the representative of this large class of our Alumni, and he did his part well. We are able to give his speech entire:—

MR. PRESIDENT: I can hardly understand why one of the least of all the honored class referred to in this sentiment should have been selected to respond, unless it is to be accounted for on the principle that "distance lends enchantment to the view." Having

traveled over fifteen hundred miles, and traversed twelve States, that I might be present on this memorable occasion, I suppose the committee felt that they must take some notice of Western pluck and perseverance. At any rate I am here, and I am glad to be here. You have been pleased, sir, to refer to Kansas as "the garden of the West." Why, sir, it is entirely too large for gardening purposes. It would take in all New England, and leave a broad margin for raising garden sauce outside. As a specimen of Kansas gardening, I have seen a field of wheat containing 2,800 acres. I met a gentleman last week on the cars, from the Solomon Valley, who told me he had just visited a field there which contained 3,600 acres, all ready for the reapers. That field, at a low estimate, will yield 75,000 bushels. A nice garden that, sir! I doubt whether Eden itself could boast of a bigger crop. According to the report of the commissioner of agriculture, Kansas has this year 1,522,787 acres in wheat, which will yield in the neighborhood of thirty million bushels. Her fields of maize are counted by the square mile; her fruit crop last year was valued at nearly three million dollars.

So much for our garden. Allow me to add that 60,000 people have come into Kansas within the last four months, to help us cultivate it, and they have taken possession of over one million acres of land. They came from the Eastern, Middle and Western States, and from over the sea. Kansas is no longer "bleeding, droughthy, famine-smitten and locust-eaten." She is the Canaan of the West—the Land of Promise, whither the tribes go up to possess her. Kansas is planted with New England seed corn, and very prolific has it proved in that virgin soil. It has brought forth fruit an hundred fold.

The first settlers of that State were from old Massachusetts—God bless her! The same principles that brought the Pilgrims to Plymouth in the Mayflower, sent their descendants to Kansas in 1853 to establish civil and religious freedom.

The historic city of Lawrence—baptized in fire and blood—with its 10,000 inhabitants, its churches, schools and State University—beautiful for situation—bears the honored name of Amos A. Lawrence, while its principal street is named Massachusetts. Kansas, sir, is thoroughly impregnated with New England principles and ideas, and (I ought to add) she has some ideas of her own besides. She has had representatives from Franklin, like nearly every other place of importance, almost from the first. The Leonards were there at an early day. Also Dr. Amory Hunting, whose family still resides there. Luther Dean followed, and others whom I have not time to name. Indeed, sir, when I travel in the West, I meet the sons and daughters of Franklin pressing westward, in obedience to Horace Greeley's memorable injunction.

And I have met so many abroad that I felt it my duty to come back, on this Centennial year, and see if there was anybody left behind. And I assure you, sir, I am surprised to see what a crowd you can muster, still, of genuine natives; you have verified the Scripture statement, “There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth.” The more you send abroad, the faster you seem to multiply at home—proving that the remark, attributed to Daniel Webster, respecting New Hampshire is equally applicable to century old Franklin, viz.: It is a good place *to rouse men!* It is, perhaps, hardly in good taste for me to speak in this presence of the *quality* of this product of my native soil. I will say this much, however—I doubt whether any town of its size in this Commonwealth can show a better record of intelligent, educated and useful men (and women, too,) than Franklin. More than a score have entered the Christian ministry since my recollection, and are proving themselves workmen that need not be ashamed of their work. Several have been missionaries in our own and in foreign lands. The medical and legal professions, too, have been largely and well represented by her sons. The intellectual papulum dealt out in Franklin pulpit from the days of Dr. Emmons until now has been of the most solid and substantial character, and in those early times it was largely reinforced, stimulated and given a practical direction by the efficient training received at the old Academy, of which my honored friend and teacher—the orator of the day—Rev. Dr. Blake, was the first preceptor. A goodly company of young men owed their entrance upon, and success in a professional life, to instructions received within those hallowed walls from the lips of Dr. Blake and his successors.

Allow me, in closing these rambling remarks, to add that Dr. Franklin builded better than he knew, when, in reply to the suggestion of a friend, that a bell for the church might be an acceptable present, he replied that “If the good people of Franklin were the sort of folk he took them to be, *they were more fond of sense than sound,*” and sent them *books* instead of a *bell*. That library was kept, in my boyhood, in my father’s house, and to its perusal I was indebted for a taste for reading and a thirst for knowledge. But, sir, while books are better than bells, they also make more noise in the world. Brains are sure to be heard from; and Franklin has a son of whose authorship she may well be proud, but of whom it does not become me to speak in this presence. His books for the young are read on both sides of the sea. In short, sir, if the next century does as well as the past, Franklin will be “no mean city.” Her educated and professional men and women will be among the brightest lights in the firmament of literature, and her second centennial will probably usher in the millennium. So mote it be.

15. *Our Next Centennial.*

Rev. W. M. Thayer replied with the following original

## CENTENNIAL DREAM.

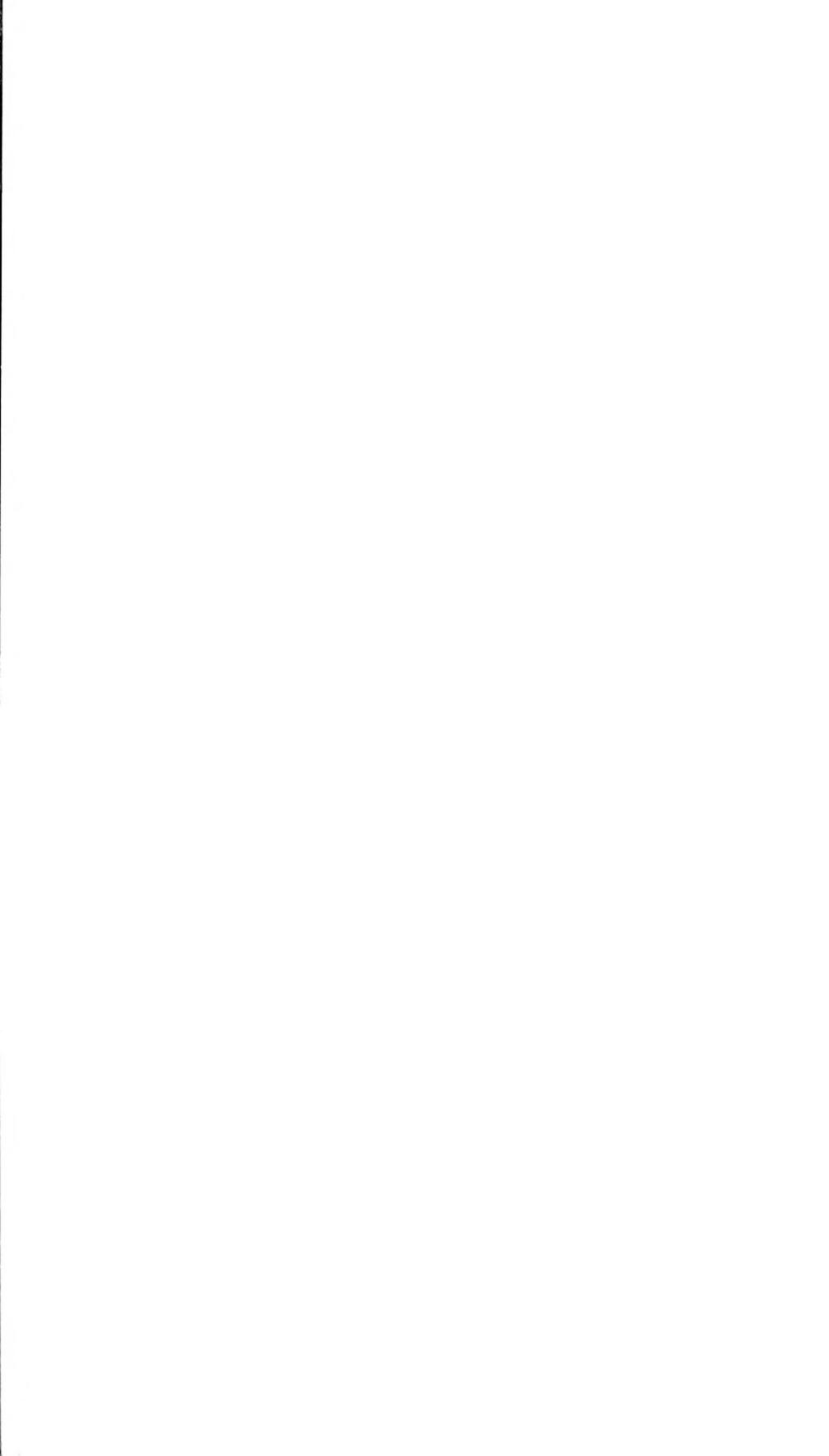
I dreamed — and yet not all a dream  
 (For dreams are airy things,  
 When Reason folds its restless powers,  
 And Fancy spreads her wings.)  
 That for a hundred years I slept,  
 A nap of wondrous date,  
 And woke amid the clang of bells  
 In nineteen seventy-eight.

The same old sun in grandeur bore  
 The flaming torch on high;  
 The same fair earth from flowery shrine  
 Bore incense to the sky.  
 Sweet Venus with the pretty maids  
 Was brilliant as of old;  
 The same still night upon her breast  
 Wore studs of burnished gold.

All else how changed! Strange mystic sight  
 That met my wandering view!  
 Was this illusion's fatal cheat?  
 All things so strangely new!  
 Amazed I stood! spell-bound I looked  
 And viewed the picture o'er!  
 And looked again! Could this be true?  
 And wondered more and more.

Is this the town where I was born?  
 And now a city fair!  
 Three miles in length, and fifty bells  
 All ringing in the air.  
 What Midas-touch hath wrought this change?  
 What means this fairy view?  
 Ye gods that love mysterious things,  
 Come, tell me, is this true?

Fleet coursers o'er the pavements flew;  
 The horse-cars came and went;  
 A mighty crowd surged to and fro  
 On joyous mission bent;  
 And flags with groups of sixty stars  
 Waved from the spires that rose;  
 And cannon pealed two hundred guns,  
 From day-dawn to its close.



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The City Hall on yonder height  
    Stood grandly in that hour:  
Five thousand souls could sit and list  
    Beneath its lofty tower.  
I bent my steps to view it o'er  
    With genus of art replete,  
And found myself bewildered quite  
    And lost on Alpine street.

In time I reached the City Hall,  
    Of structures seen the crown:  
I found my great-great-great-grandson  
    Was mayor of the town;  
His aldermen around him stood  
    Dressed in official rig:  
The mayor was a little man,  
    The aldermen were big.

Within the spacious hall select,  
    Arrayed by ladies fair,  
A museum of ancient things  
    Drew crowds of people there.  
A mass of reliques, rare and old,  
    Around, above, below:  
They said that all of these were used  
    A hundred years ago.

The first that caught my startled gaze,  
    Most curious relic yet!  
Just as it is for all the world,  
    Our dear old town-house set:  
And men were making fun of things  
    That women wore so queer.  
I saw the ladies laughing o'er  
    The hat I use this year.

I could not tell the reason why  
    They scanned it o'er and o'er,  
For queerest of all things to me,  
    Were what the women wore.  
Such hats upon their dainty heads,  
    Enough to fright a beau!  
And yet they said "that hat was worn  
    A hundred years ago!"

Just then the city bells rang out;  
    Some fifty bells or more;  
The band struck up Centennial march  
    Amid the cannon's roar;

The setting sun threw back his joy  
In every golden beam;  
The grandeur awed my soul; I woke  
And lo! it was a dream.

#### 16. *Franklin's earliest manufactures.*

The response of Davis Thayer, one of the leading manufacturers of the town, and representing the oldest straw house in the State, will be found substantially in the account of the industries of the town already given.

#### 17. *The Press.*

J. M. Stewart of the Franklin *Register* replied briefly, as the time was short:—

MR. PRESIDENT: You allow me eight minutes in which to tell what I know about the Press. Ample time, sir; although I must resort to one of the methods of my trade and “boil down” my paragraphs.

The editorial field is as extensive as the world we live upon. Some few editors have attempted to extend its boundaries, so as to embrace other worlds, but I have not heard that they have met with much success, except when dealing with facts palpable, or the positive discoveries of science. As a rule, however, your hard-headed, trained editor minds his own business, and is not much given to abstruse disquisitions, which may make men wonder but are not apt to enlighten anybody. No man is quicker than he to catch a thing that has a tail to it; and he is very careful to avoid those which are all head and no tail, for he believes in balancing things by natural rules; although—such is the perversity of readers—he sometimes finds he has taken a bull by the horns, and the danger is about evenly balanced between letting go or holding on.

Sir, if these figures of rhetoric seem unseemly at this time, and in this presence, please read my meaning “between the lines.” There you will find the pith of the whole matter—the “sugar in the gourd,” which is valuable in proportion to the difficulty with which it is gathered. I could, were I so disposed, make a spread eagle of my theme, and soar away into the empyrean, and probably amaze some one here; I would certainly astonish myself, for I am not used to that sort of thing. If I am to be natural I must be blunt—hit hard and quick, and have done with it. Two things also warn me to mind my own particular business, now, and keep down from a height that might be perilous; the flight of my little time, and the presence above this vast assemblage—which I seem to realize—of that grand old man, whose name our town bears, FRANKLIN. While serenely smiling upon these festivities, which I

doubt not he enjoys with all the zest of an ever youthful feeling, he says to me — Few words are best ; don't prose ; stick to the point, and stop when you are through ! There, sir, in aphoristic brevity he has given you the whole duty of an editor, and, by implication, a rule for the editor's particular friends, the correspondents. For, sir, Franklin once was an editor — a man of sorrows. It is the pride of our craft to say this, although he fortunately became, as is natural to the craft, a philosopher, but in his early years, and before he took to his bed to die. Happy were it for the world if all editors might be Franklins ; most happy now, while such tremendous social and political upheavals are going on all over the earth. That old gray goose-quill, that never penned a useless sentence, would make a safe rudder to steer our nation's vessel through the present troubled waters, where an ounce of good sense is worth a ton of editorial folly and haphazard advice and conjecture. Think, sir, of Franklin writing his views upon the present Congress !

But I forbear, sir, this is dangerous ground. Your glance warns me that my time is up. In closing, I give you "*THE MEMORY OF FRANKLIN*," and let each one who hears me round off for himself the toast with a sentiment of his own choosing.

The skies, which had once during the services vociferously showered down their benedictions, were now placidly calm and clear, and the audience reluctantly lifted the closing hymn by the poet of the day.

Come, ere we part for other scenes,  
The wreath of friendship twine ;  
We'll pledge each other here to-day  
    In songs of "*Auld Lang Syne*."  
The fathers ne'er shall be forgot ;  
    Their deeds heroic shine ;  
Their virtues like the sun illume  
    The days of "*Auld Lang Syne*."  
  
Their children meet and part again  
    'Mid blessings all divine ;  
Perhaps to meet no more below  
    To tell of "*Auld Lang Syne*."  
Oh ! may we meet when time is o'er  
    Beneath the Living Vine,  
And sing with those we loved on earth  
    In days of "*Auld Lang Syne*."

At the close of the singing, and after the benediction, the services were adjourned for one hundred years and the audience

slowly dwindled in joyous and tearful chattings of the past, as they shook pledged hands over the future and parted for the present. It was a royal, blessed day, without break or accident to mar its success.

#### THE MUSEUM.

The museum of antiquities, to which allusion has been made, was in the spacious chapel in the rear of the Congregational church. Nearly a thousand people visited it during the day, and it was opened, at a small entrance fee, for two succeeding days. The industry and success of the ladies' committee in gathering so many articles struck every one as remarkable.

A catalogue was carefully made by Mrs. W. C. Whiting, from which are selected some of the rarer specimens of "ye olden time" for briefest mention: —

Foremost was the old-time kitchen, arranged by Mrs. A. A. Fletcher, with andirons, pot-hooks, trammels and settle complete.

Bibles and books of all ages, from an illuminated Roman missal of 1485, on vellum, a black letter missal bound in wood and vellum, clasped, and an Elzevir treatise of 1631, by Rev. Dr. Chambré; a series of manuscript sermons by the Wrentham and Franklin pastors, complete from *Messenger* to *Southworth*; a file of almanacs to 1800.

Of household utensils were, *Mayflower* candlesticks, by Mrs. E. K. Ray; an hour-glass, 180 years old; a wooden easator, by Mrs. M. Pherson; a brass milk-pan used by British soldiers in Boston, by Adin Fisher; an old brass clock six feet high, by H. Bemis; China sets, platters, etc., of unknown antiquity; the brass andirons of Dr. Emmons' study, by Mrs. S. Warfield; tape loom of Mary Whiting, one of the first settlers of Wrentham; Nathaniel Thayer's settle, 123 years old, by J. F. Ray; cradle of Dea. Joseph Whiting's family, by Mrs. W. C. Whiting; Rev. C. Barnum's and Rev. Dr. Emmons' study chairs; a copper kettle from Marblehead, 200 years old, by L. Howard; spinning-wheels, and a four-wheeled miniature wagon for the twins of 1824, made by John King.

Of garments, a century-old traveling-bag, by S. Hubbard; buckskin breeches, many pairs; kid slippers, numberless; Dr. Emmons' tri-cornered hat, and the first Mrs. Emmons' white satin

bridal shoes; infants' caps, slips, etc., including that of the orator of the day; Dr. Nathaniel Miller's wedding vest — pea-green, satin embroidered; Dea. Joseph Whiting's wig and leather-bowed spectacles of 1750.

Of the miscellanies were the pitch-pipe of Austin Metcalf; the sword of Capt. Eben. Dean, grandfather of Dr. O. Dean; the gun and accoutrements of James Holbrook, at Saratoga, by W. Stanley: the bell of the first Franklin cow, by Dea. W. C. Whiting; a silver brooch of Dr. Ebenezer Metcalf, 1745, by Maria Fisher: a pillion used by Governor Winthrop's family, by Mrs. Adams Daniels; the noted bear-trap of David Gilmore “on the mount;” a baby's christening-dress of Ruth Clark, and used for that service by a line of Ruths until to-day; an ingenious tablet of Indian relics, arrows, etc., by W. W. Cowell, of Wrentham.

Many portraits and silhouettes of Franklin's former worthies hung around the walls, and the rooms of the chapel were filled with portraits, rarities whose description would fill a large volume. None knew the town was so rich in relics of the fathers, and all felt they should be sacredly treasured by the town in a fire-proof building for the next centennial.

The centennial day was closed by a vocal concert from singers secured from abroad, in aid of the celebration fund. It was largely attended, and formed an appropriate finale to the memorable day.



# GENEALOGICAL NOTICES

OF THE

EARLIEST FAMILIES IN FRANKLIN.



## GENEALOGICAL NOTICES.

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THESE genealogical notices are necessarily brief and imperfect—brief for want of space, and imperfect because they have been, most of them, gathered from the town records of Wrentham and Franklin (to which families sometimes neglected to make returns). A few, like those of the Adams, Pond and Richardson families, have been compiled from published genealogies, and may be considered complete in their Franklin branches. Our research has been as extensive as possible in the time in tracing the other families. No doubt a longer time and a wider correspondence would have given a richer result. But a genealogist knows that years must be consumed on one full family register.

We have only aimed by these few notes to excite an interest in our townsmen to trace their family lines for themselves. We have, therefore, gone rather backward than forward, that they might find some sure starting point among the early settlers of the country. But they are brought down within reach of the present, so that those disposed can easily attach their own families to their proper ancestral line. Space would not allow our coming lower down.

It were utterly out of the compass of this history to give even the briefest genealogical notice of all the present dwellers in Franklin. We have, therefore, confined our notes to the list of petitioners for a precinct, as given on page 25. That list includes all the earliest settlers of the town. If any regret that their names do not find a place, they must blame their ancestors for not moving into the precinct in season. It should be added, however, that the names of a few later settlers are inserted in this list who have kindly furnished ancestral portraits or views of their homesteads for the illustration of the book. To such, and to all others, we are grateful for these illustrations, which will form, to some, the chief attraction of the volume.

In the notices following, the numbers before named refer back

to the same number in the family line. The daughters can be traced, when married, by their husband's surname.

Lastly, if the dates disagree with the family registers in the "big ha' bible," please refer the difference to the errors of the town records. They have all been personally and carefully copied.

Any corrections will be gladly accepted, for the correcting of the author's own copy and possible future use.

#### THE ADAMS FAMILY.\*

1. John Adams, immigrant ancestor, born in 1685 at Crediton, Devonshire, England. Seized in youth by a press-gang and forced to serve as cabin boy on a man-of-war. Escaped at Salem and fled to Medfield. Recaptured, he again escaped and hid in Wrentham. Afterwards bought and settled on the farm now occupied by Dea. Peter Adams. Was a weaver by trade. He married 24th September, 1713, Sarah, daughter of John and Hannah Fairbank. She was born 22d March, 1696, in Wrentham, and died 13th May, 1754, three days after her husband. Their children were: 2, John, born 18th June, 1715; married Rachel Adams. Mary, born 15th March, 1716; married Jabes Fisher. Sarah, born 15th February, 1718; married Matthew Smith. Hannah, born 25th March, 1721; married Michael Metcalf. 3, Peter, born 2d February, 1722; married Esther Ward. Abigail, born 14th February, 1725. Ann, born 7th February, 1728. Esther, born 8th March, 1732. Elizabeth, born 14th July, 1735; married Henry Wilson, of Rowe. The last four children probably left town.

2. John, "Ensign," lived at "Nason's Crossing." His farm included the present Common. He died 30th May, 1793. His wife Rachel, born 1715; died 2d April, 1789. Their children were: Timothy, born 6th February, 1742; married Jemima Thayer, of Mendon. Parents and four children all died young, and one stone in the Franklin cemetery now covers the whole family. 4. Thaddeus, born 13th June, 1745; married Rachel Lawrence. 5, John, born 1748; married Naomi Pratt. 6, Nathaniel, born 17th August, 1751; married first Hannah Fisher, second Zebia Collock. 7, William, born 1755; married Elizabeth Whiting. Rachel, born 11th March, 1758; married Asa Fisher.

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\* From a Genealogy compiled by Gardner Adams.

3. Peter lived on the homestead; died 12th March, 1802. His wife, Esther, born 17th February, 1732; died 11th November, 1809. Their children were: Jemima, born 16th March, 1752; married Jesse Robbins. Joel, born 21st July, 1753; married Jemima Robbins. Molly, died young. Peter, born 24th February, 1758; died 27th September, 1778, in the Revolutionary War. Eunice, born 24th February, 1760; married Calvin Metcalf and went to Winthrop, Me. 8, Ward, born 28th November, 1762; married Olivia Daggett. Junia, died young. Esther, born 15th July, 1767; married Eli Taft, and went to Upton. 9, James, born 6th May, 1769; married first Sarah Bacon, second Lucy Fairbank. Apollus, died young. 10, Nehemiah, born 11th January, 1773; married Mary Clark; removed to Union, Me. Jemima and Joel also went to Union, Me.

4. Thaddeus bought and lived on the present town farm; he died 28th June, 1827. His wife, Rachel, daughter of Ebenezer Lawrence; born 24th February, 1751; died 27th September, 1823. Their children: Lucinda, born 5th October, 1771; married Joseph Gilmore. Abigail, born 12th May, 1773; married Abadiah A. Thayer, and went to West Wrentham. Thaddeus, born 22d June, 1775; married Peggy Oreutt, and went to Brewer, Me. Rachel, born 25th October, 1777; married Seneca Aldrich, and left town. Timothy, born 19th March, 1781; married Betsey Payson, and went to Bucksport, Me. 11, Alpheus, born 22d December, 1785; married Achsa Partridge.

5. John, removed to Walpole, N. H., where his youngest child was born; he died in August, 1836. His first wife, Naomi Pratt, Medfield; died 1793; he married second Eunice Moulton, and third Elizabeth Stearns; he died May, 1851; he had sixteen children: three only remained in town, viz.: Sally, born 25th January, 1772; married Jonathan Hawes. Eunice (by second wife) born 7th January, 1795; married Fisher Daniels. Lois, born 26th June, 1797; married Jeremiah Claffin.

6. Nathaniel was in the Revolution, called "Captain," lived and kept a store on Davis Thayer's Corner. In 1815 removed to Providence, and died in 1834. His wife, Hannah Fisher, died 9th April, 1790; married, second, Zelia Collock. One child only staid in town, Hannah, born 8th April, 1781; married Bela Cleveland.

7. William lived at "Nason's Crossing," was noted as "Uncle

Bill." He died 28th March, 1828. His wife died in 1833. Children were: Betsey, born 20th August, 1783; married Ichabod Dean. Amos, born 15th November, 1785; married first Betsey Follett, second Mrs. Sally B. Partridge; removed to Medway. William, born 11th March, 1789; married Mary Fisher, and removed to Medway. Whiting, born 22d March, 1793.

8. Ward, died 25th October, 1792; wife died 1788; had one child, Ebenezer Ward, born 23d July, 1787; married Mima, daughter of Joel Adams, and removed to Union, Me.

9. James, deacon and justice of the peace, lived on the home-  
stead. He died 16th April, 1830; first wife died 1806; second wife, Lucy F., born 19th July, 1789; died 1st July, 1878. Children by first wife: Chloe Fales, born 1st January, 1797; married Joseph A. Metcalf and removed to Winthrop, Me. Thomas Bacon, born 16th January, 1799; married Elizabeth Adams, of Readfield, Me., and removed to Maine. James, Rev., born 21st October, 1800. (See biographical sketches.) By second wife, Sarah Bacon, born 27th June, 1809; married Rev. E. W. Robinson. (See biographical sketches.) 12, Peter, born 3d April, 1811; married Clarissa D. Richardson. Lucy Maria, born 19th March, 1817; married James Bigelow, of Boylston.

10. Nehemiah, removed to Union, Me., but previously had three children in Franklin. He died 14th December, 1854. His wife, of Medfield, died 14th April, 1821. His only son in town, Ward, born 23d November, 1798, married Hannah Blake. He died 27th October, 1865.

11. Alpheus, lived on the home farm till he sold it to the town for the poor; went to Nashua, N. H., in 1836, but returned in 1846 and died in town, 9th January, 1852. His wife, Achsa, daughter of Simon and Achsa (Metcalf) Partridge, born 4th March, 1787, died 25th January, 1868. Their children were: Albert, born 22d December, 1807; married first Mary C. Daniels, second Sophronia Heald, third Susan D. White; had seven children. Simeon Partridge, born 16th November, 1809; married Harriet B. Wood. Emerson, born 5th December, 1812; married Abigail Blake and removed to Sherborn. Gardner, born 2d April, 1818; married Eunice R. Darling. Erastus, born 22d January, 1821; married first Mary G. Powell, second Lucetta A. Harvey. Achsa Metcalf, born 2d November, 1824; married

Merrill E. Carter, and lives in Syraeuse, N. Y. Of this family only thirteen now reside in town.

12. Peter, deacon, lives on the ancestral farm, and has children: James Francis, born 2d January, 1842; married Mary A., daughter of Lucy M. Bigelow. Abby Maria, born 31st January, 1855. Herbert, born 28th October, 1857. Charles R. was killed in Sheridan's campaign, near Winchester, Va., and four children died young.

The descendants of "Ensign" John and Peter Adams counted in 1874, 924, and of John, the immigrant, 1,814 persons; number of marriages, 358. Less than a score now of the Adams family live in Franklin.

#### THE ALLEN FAMILY.

The first of this name in town was Abijah, a native of Natick, who came from Dover just before the incorporation of the town. His first child, Samuel, was the first birth after that event. He married Abigail Maxey 17th June, 1777. His children were: Samuel, born 15th March, 1778. Mary, born 16th December, 1779. Abigail and Maxey, twins; both died young. Marena, born 12th May, 1787. Abijah, born 27th May, 1789. Cyrus, born 29th May, 1793. Alfred, born 25th September, 1797; died 3d March, 1825. Sammel married Sarah W. Aldis, and had Aldis, born 13th November, 1803. (See biographical sketches.) He married, second, Jubetta Metcalf, of Franklin, and removed to Medway Vill., where he was chosen deacon of the Congregational church, and had other children born there. Cyrus married Sarah Bacon 4th October, 1825, and had: Marena, born 10th September, 1826. George, born 6th April, 1828. Cyrus Milton, born 6th June, 1831. Thomas Bacon, born 7th October, 1836.

Another Allen family in the north part of the town is of a different ancestry.

#### THE BACON FAMILY.

The immigrant, according to Savage, was Michael. He came from Ireland to Dedham with his wife and four children, Michael, Daniel, John and Sarah. He died winter of 1647-8. John married Rebeka, and had John. Rebeka, married John Gay. Daniel, Samuel. 2, Thomas. Mary, married Nathaniel Kingsbury; and Susanna, married Jonathan Dewing. He died 17th

June, 1683. His widow died 27th October, 1694. Of this line is Rev. Dr. L. Bacon, of New Haven.

2. Thomas settled in Wrentham, and his family is recorded there. He married Hannah Fales, and had seven children: 3, Thomas, born 26th November, 1693. Hannah, born 25th April, 1697; married Robert Pond. James, born 28th October, 1700. Martha, born 8th October, 1703; married John Shepard. Jacob, born 9th September, 1706. (First preacher in the West precinct.) John, born 22d April, 1710. Sarah, died young.

3. Thomas, Jr., married Deborah ——, and had: Kezia, born 7th June, 1725; married Robert Blake. 4, Thomas, Deborah, Samuel, and Rebecca.

4. Thomas, 3d, Captain. Performed good service in the Revolution. He had, by his wife Lydia Pond, ten children. One only son, Amos, of whom we know no more.

The Franklin line of Bacons is traceable no further back than Seth. He married Abigail Whiting 3d June, 1762, and had five children: Joseph, born 19th June, 1763. Theophilus, died at 17 years. Sarah, born 13th March, 1768. 3, Thomas, born 16th May, 1771. Abigail, born 12th June, 1774.

2. Joseph married Ruth Heaton 17th January, 1804. Chosen deacon of Franklin church 1st January, 1806, and died 6th May, 1843. They had: 4, Joseph Thomas, born 14th February, 1808; married Mary Ann Metcalf; and Delia Emmons, born 28th February, 1815; married Samuel Metcalf, Jr.

3. Thomas married 26th April, 1796, Ruth Adams, and had Sally, born 23d August, 1797, who married Cyrus Allen. On his sudden death, 15th May, 1799, his widow Ruth married Joseph Whiting, 3d.

4. Joseph T. was deacon of the Franklin church, chosen 15th October, 1835. He was gored by a bull, of which he died in the past spring. His wife died soon after. They had: Abby Miranda; married Dea. E. E. Baker. Thomas Metcalf, George, and Ellen.

#### THE BAKER FAMILY.\*

1. Richard, immigrant in Dorchester, 1639; married Faith, daughter of Henry Withington, and had at least two sons and six

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\* From a Genealogy compiled by Edward Baker, Dorchester.





RESIDENCE OF CAPT. DAVID BAKER.

daughters: he died 25th October, 1689. His son, 2, John, married Preserved, daughter of Thomas Trott, and had ten children. He died 26th August, 1690. His son, 3, Abijah, posthumous, born 25th February, 1691: married Hannah Jones, and settled in Franklin south of Beaver Pond; he died 31st December, 1761. His son, 4, Abijah, born 15th October, 1718: married Esther Smith: he died 27th September, 1780. His son, 5, Abijah, born 11th August, 1749; married March, 1775, Esther Parker; she died 12th May, 1795; and he married 17th April, 1796, Phebe Boyden: she died 19th November, 1821: he died 19th April, 1824. A view of the Baker homestead near the center of the town is inserted; Dea. E. E. Baker now occupies it. The children of Abijah and Esther were: Esther, born 25th September, 1779; married John Warfield, whose grandson is Rev. F. A. Warfield, pastor of the Union church, in Boston. David, born 5th June, 1782. Anna, born 5th June, 1786; died unmarried 2d May, 1864. 6, David, captain: town clerk: married, first, Jemima, daughter of Elisha and Abigail (Lawrence) Richardson: she died 26th July, 1845; married, second, Lucy F. Perry of Holliston, who died 13th August, 1874; he died 11th October, 1861.

Captain Baker was especially well known as a clerk of the town for many years. In his day it was the custom to cry all intentions of marriage on three public occasions, and his clear voice from his pew in the meeting-house at the beginning of the Sunday afternoon service made many a youth and maiden hang their heads as it published aloud their often unsuspected engagements. Many who endured this exposure will recognize the familiar face of Captain Baker in the portrait following this brief family notice. On the election of Davis Thayer, Jr., as town clerk, the immemorial usage was exchanged for the milder form of a posted notice. But Captain Baker was yet better known as an energetic and public-spirited citizen, a faithful father and a decided Christian man.

Captain Baker had six children: Abijah Richardson. (See biographical sketches.) Charlotte, married Rev. Asa Hixon. (See biographical sketches.) Abigail, married Hon. M. P. Wilder. (See biographical sketches.) Jemima Jane, married Daniel H. Forbes of Westboro: school-teacher in Charlestown, Mass. David Parker, married Lois Angenette Green of Franklin. Julia, married Hon. M. P. Wilder. (See biographical sketches.) Erastus

Emmons, "Deacon;" married Abby M., daughter of Dea. Joseph T. Bacon of Franklin; his son, David Erastus. (See biographical sketches.)

#### THE BLAKE FAMILY.

The branch of this widely-spread family which settled in Franklin descended from Robert, although the posterity of John appears in town. Robert is believed to have been an original immigrant, as a research of many years has not linked him with any other Blakes in the country. But many facts point to Taunton, England, as the habitat of his family, and to a connection with Cromwell's famous sea-king, Admiral Robert, and with Sarah, one of the earliest settlers of South Carolina. Information is invited by the author.

1. Robert was born 1675, married 7th January, 1703, Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah Guild, of Wrentham. He bought the farm on the east side of Blake's Pond (since miscalled Archer's) and built his house on the crown of the hill, parts of which entered into the present dwelling there. When he cleared the forest, he left the old oak now standing by the wayside, which "was called the old oak," his grandson Philip said, "by the old people when he was a boy." He died 4th October, 1735, aged 60. His widow married, 30th March, 1738, Nathaniel Perry. She died 30th July, 1757. They had ten children.

Bette married Benjamin Hall. Sarah married first Thomas Fisher, second James Newe. 2, Robert, born 22nd December, 1707. 3, Josiah, born 4th March, 1710. Nathan, born 13th March, 1712. Ezra, born 12th May, 1714. Hepzibah, married Capt. Benjamin Shepard of Wrentham. Obadiah, born 9th June, 1719. Esther, married David Jones and removed to Abington. Elijah, born 13th October, 1723. The ages of these ten children summed up nearly nine hundred years, three of them attaining to a century.

Nathan, Sarah and Obadiah removed to Keene, N. H. Nathan was the first settler there; spent the first winter alone and built the first house in Ashuelot, as then called. He was captured by the Indians, April, 1746, and taken to Canada, where he was made a chief for his prowess and inventiveness, but was finally exchanged and returned to Keene. Obadiah had been a physician in Wrentham, and became the first doctor in Keene on his settlement there.



*David Batten*



2. Robert, Captain, married Keziah, daughter of Thomas and Deborah Thurston. He died 22d December, 1800, aged 93. She died 19th April, 1794. They have only two children recorded: Keziah, born 29th October, 1743. 4, Robert, born 14th July, 1749.

3. Josiah, Ensign; married Martha, daughter of Joseph and Martha Cowell. He died 25th February, 1795, aged 85. She died 8th February, 1772. They had seven children: Abigail, married David Holbrook. Josiah, born 15th October, 1742; married Margaret Druce. Nathan, born 6th July, 1744; married Mary Day and removed to Union, Me. 5, Philip, born 6th March, 1746. Martha, married Abijah Wilder. Hepzibah, unmarried, and a celebrated midwife within a circuit of forty miles from Wrentham.

4. Robert, married 11th October, 1770, Eunice Bordin. He lived in Wrentham and died there 8th November, 1776. She died 11th January, 1816. They had three children: Chloe, born 1st June, 1773. Calvin, born 17th December, 1774. 6, Robert, born 1st January, 1777.

5. Philip, deacon of Wrentham church, removed to Franklin about 1790 and bought a farm of John Adams. He married, first, Sarah, daughter of Elijah and Sarah (Morse) Allen of Medfield, who died 24th May, 1795; second, Beriah Lawrence, who died 23d May, 1828; third, Widow Olive Whiting, of Wrentham. He died 16th December, 1836 at over 90. He had ten children by his first wife, of whom only five reached maturity: Patty (or Martha) married Eli Messenger of Wrentham and removed to Pawtucket, R. I. Josiah, born 16th April, 1782, removed to Rockville and became deacon of the East Medway church. Sarah, married Henry Campbell, of Oxford, and removed there. Hepzibah, married Asa Fuller and resided in North Franklin. Their son, Newell, lives on their homestead. Asa Metcalf B. is a prominent citizen of West Medway. 7, Ira, born 19th October, 1790.

6. Robert, married 11th April, 1799, Abigail Blake. He died 22d December, 1800; she died 3d January, 1833. They had nine children: Austin, born 3d March, 1800. Robert, Jr., born 4th March, 1802. Herman R. (not recorded.) Roxana, born 28th October, 1805. Joel Nelson, born 12th May, 1807. Stephen Mann, born 1st January, 1811. Lewis, born 11th January, 1812.

Abigail, born 9th June, 1816. Charles Fisher, born 24th February, 1818. Caroline, born 13th February, 1820.

7. Ira. Went to Pittston, Me., where he married Laura, daughter of Capt. Augustus and Chloe (Fisk) Mowry, of Putney, Vt.; returned to Franklin in 1817, and lived upon the homestead. He died 20th September, 1848; she died 1st October, 1867. They had seven children: Mortimer. (See graduates.) Sarah, Augustus Mowry, lives in New London, Conn. Laura Matilda, married William Rockwood. Oramel Bradley on the homestead.

Other Blakes, residents in town, have been: Solomon from Wrentham, who settled on the Mt. Hope road and had Solomon, Jr. This family has entirely left town. Abraham, Jr., also from Wrentham, represented now by Alvin Blake, and David Partridge Blake, who married Polly, daughter of Elihu Pond. Some of his family live in the northern part of the town. But the name has mostly disappeared.

#### THE CLARK FAMILY.

The Clarks of Franklin are traced to Jonathan and Experience of Wrentham, who had eight children, of whom —

1. John, the eldest, born 22d October, 1725; married, 16th January, 1752, Ruth Baxter, and had eight children. 2, Abijah, born 4th March, 1755; married Melatiah Pond. Susanna, born 30th July, 1757; married Nathaniel Thayer. Ruth, born 14th June, 1760; married Asa Metcalf. Mary, born 22d December, 1762; married Levi Fisher. Nathan, born 26th November, 1765; married Subra Metcalf. Sarah, born 7th May, 1768. 3, Paul, born 26th October, 1770; married Phebe —. Rachel, born 12th November, 1772; married Nathan Pond.

2. Abijah and Melatiah (Pond) had three children: Abijah, born 5th April, 1785. Melatiah, born 26th November, 1792, and died 11th October, 1804. Lois, born 2d January, 1796; married Hiram Knapp, 20th May, 1813.

3. Paul, married Phebe —, and had four children: Melinda, born 2d October, 1798, and died 6th July, 1800. Daniel Pennington, born 3d May, 1801, and died 27th January, 1805. Mary, born 6th May, 1805; married, 13th April, 1826, Adin Fisher. Paul Baxter, born 14th October, 1807; deacon South Franklin church. (For his portrait see Centennial Committee, plate 2.)





*George W. Nason*

By another line of unrecorded ancestry:—

1. Dyar and Rachel Clark. He died 8th September, 1807. She died 16th June, 1818. Their children were: Pamela, born 19th February, 1764; married Levi Hawes. Ezekiel, born 13th April, 1766. Elizabeth, born 28th January, 1769, and died 31st August, 1795. 2, Dyer, Jr., born 7th December, 1769. Rachel, born 10th February, 1772; married Luther Cobb, of Bellingham (?). Elizabeth, born 11th February, 1774, and died 31st August, 1795. Hannah, baptized 31st June, 1776; married Jesse Nason of Walpole. Franklin, born 8th March, 1778. 3, Nathan, born 28th January, 1781.

Jesse Nason, born 21st February, 1776; removed to Franklin after his marriage, where he died 24th May, 1845. His wife died 27th December, 1856. They had four children: Laura, born 28th December, 1800; died 4th July, 1855; unmarried. Elizabeth Clark, born 15th February, 1802; married first Preston Woodward, second Ira Haywood. George Warren, born 11th January, 1806; married first Hannah Pond, second Peacy B. Cook; he died 9th November, 1868. And an infant.

George W. had six sons, four of whom were volunteers in the Union army against the rebellion, as will be seen in the list of soldiers. They have furnished a portrait of their father, inserted opposite.

Mr. Nason was a well-known and widely-regarded citizen, an early member of the Congregational church, and noted for strong and tender feelings, great generosity to the poor and enthusiasm in every good work, especially of temperance, which sometimes carried him beyond his cooler after-judgment. He was greatly instrumental in securing the location of the railroad through Franklin. He was twice elected member of the State Legislature, and for thirty years occupied some important municipal office. He was also deputy sheriff of the county for many years. His funeral was attended by fully 2,000 persons, and he was buried with Masonic honors. The county newspaper of the day said, "no man in Norfolk county will be missed more than Mr. Nason."

2. Dyer, Jr., married 10th July, 1793, Nancy Day. They had seven children, of whom two died young: Nancy, born 24th January, 1794. Laura, born 19th May, 1799; married Joseph Bullard, of Medway. Adaline, born 9th August, 1801. Mary Hawes,

born 9th February, 1807, and married —— Williams, of Grantville. William Emerson, born 2d September, 1808.

3. Nathan and Nancy (Payson) Clark had eleven children: Sally, born 3d October, 1802. Nathan, Jr., born 23d July, 1804. Ezekiel Hall, born 24th October, 1806. Horatio Kingsbury, born 2d August, 1808. Theron Edmund, born 24th December, 1810. Nancy, born 27th December, 1812; married 27th October, 1831, to Philander Gilmore. Charles Willard, born 25th September, 1815. Dyar Gilbert, died young. Alfred, born 18th July, 1819. Gilbert, born 30th December, 1822. (See biographical sketches.) Abigail Hawes, born 3d March, 1825.

By still another Wrentham line, but unconnected, came: —

1. Benjamin and Judith (Metcalf) Clark; married 29th April, 1741. Had: 2, Samuel, born 23d May, 1743. Benjamin, born 15th June, 1745. Susanna, born 27th August, 1747.

2. Samuel married Esther Jones. He died 17th January, 1822. They had: Benjamin, born 4th November, 1771. Susanna, born 16th November, 1773; married Levi Fisher. Betty, born 6th December, 1775. Paul, born 27th February, 1778. 3. Samuel, Jr., born 4th December, 1782. Olive, born 25th January, 1785.

3. Samuel, Jr., and Hannah —— had: Erastus, born 27th November, 1809; and Mary, born 19th August, 1814; married Smith Fisher, late postmaster.

Ebenezer Clark, whose name appears as petitioner for the precinct in 1738, left no descendant here as we can discover. He married 15th February, 1721, Anna Fisher, of Wrentham, and had nine children, of whom Levi, born 19th April, 1734, was the only surviving son. Of him no further mention is made, neither of the marriage of the three daughters — Experience, Achsah and Jerusha.

#### THE DANIELS FAMILY.

The immigrant ancestor, Joseph, first appears in Medfield among the subscribers "towards building a new colledge at Cambridge" in 1678.

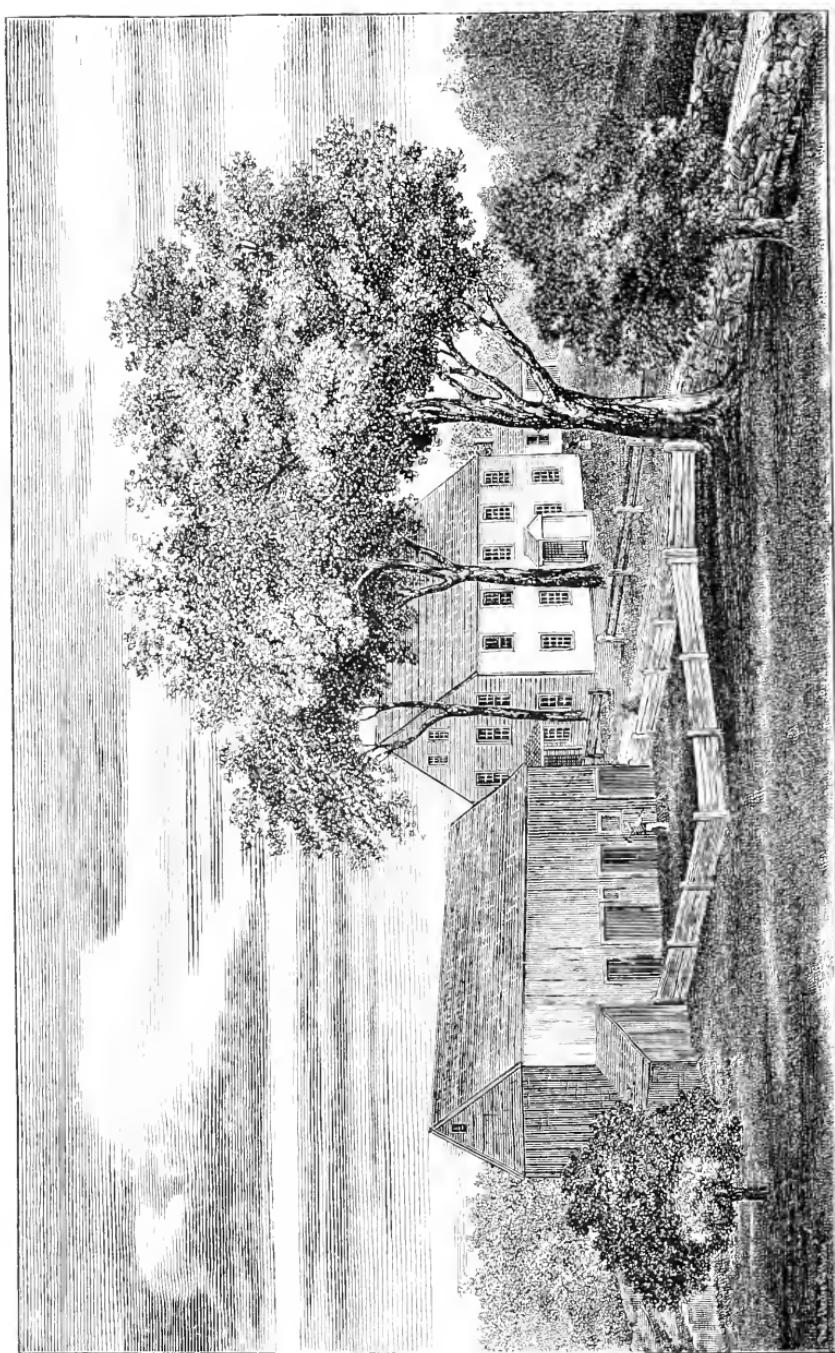
Joseph, Jr., his son, married Bethiah, and had six children: Samuel, Joseph, David, Hannah, Ezra and Sarah.

David, born 1699, married Magdalen, and had Seth and other children. He died 19th November, 1781, at 82. She died 13th October, 1780.



FISHER DANIELS HOMESTEAD.

FROM A SKETCH THIRTY YEARS AGO, BY M. BLAKE.



Seth, born 30th October, 1737, married Unite, daughter of Dea. Daniel and Elizabeth Thurston, of Franklin. He occupied the farm and house afterwards of his grandson, Fisher Daniels, and a view of which is given opposite as it was sketched by M. Blake some thirty years ago. The house has been removed further south and converted into a tenement-house. He died 16th November, 1785, aged nearly 48. She died 16th October, 1821, aged 73. They had four children: Julia, died at 16. Joseph, born 14th October, 1771. Susanna married Job Carpenter, and died early. Julia second wife of Job Carpenter, and removed to Sutton.

Joseph married Susan, daughter of Joseph and Susa Fisher, 4th September, 1793. He lived on the homestead, where he also kept a small store, and raised a family of thirteen children. He died 19th July, 1828. She died 17th February, 1829. Their children were: Seth, born 14th September, 1794; married Huldah Harris; removed to Oxford; was deacon of the Congregational church, and died 22d February, 1878. Fisher, born 2d August, 1796; married first Eunice Adams, second Ann Eames, of Hopkinton, and died 10th March, 1874. He was a school-teacher in winter for many years. His portrait is given on the following page. Julia Maria, born 4th August, 1798; married Philo Thurston, and removed to Union, Me.; died there 20th December, 1869. Unity Myra, born 17th August, 1800; married Rev. J. R. Cushing. (See biographical sketches.) Albert Early, born 25th September, 1802; married Olive, daughter of Joseph and Deborah Hills. He has been an extensive straw bonnet manufacturer, and filled many public offices. He resides in the house formerly built by Rev. E. Smalley during his pastorate. Caroline Melita, born 24th October, 1804; married Fisher A. Kingsbury, and died 31st December, 1854. Willis George, born 22d October, 1806. (See biographical sketches.) Susan Fisher, born 6th October, 1808; married Albert Cleveland, and died 6th February, 1834. Hiram Abiff, born 30th October, 1810, and removed to Amoskeag, N. H. Martha Carpenter, born 9th March, 1813; married John W. Mason, of Boston, and died 3d June, 1845. Darwin Joseph, born 12th January, 1815; became Mayor of Manchester, N. H., and died 15th August, 1865. Harriet Louisa, born 25th May, 1817; married Rev. M. Blake, D. D. (See biographical sketches.) Charles Adams, born 30th August, 1820; resides in Milford, N. H.

## THE DARLING FAMILY

appears to have made only a temporary lodgment in town. No record is had of the name in the early Franklin records other than of David as one of the petitioners, and only Lydia appears in the church list. Wrentham records are almost equally silent. We find the seven children of David and Lydia Darling (probably the petitioner) : Ruhamah, born 7th February, 1725 ; died early. Enoch, born 29th September, 1727. David, Jr., died young. Timothy, born 14th April, 1731. Elijah, born 23d February, 1740. Ruhamah, born 3d December, 1742. Lydia.

Nathaniel Fisher married a Lydia Darling 10th March, 1766.

## THE FAIRBANK FAMILY.

1. Jonathan (from whom Nathaniel, the petitioner, descended) came to Dedham before 1664, with his wife, Grace, and six children from Somerby, west riding of Yorkshire, England. He had, 2, John ; George ; Mary married Christopher Smith ; Jonas ; Jonathan, and Susan, who married Ralph Day.

2. John, his son, married Sarah ——, and had nine children ; he died 13th November, 1684. She died 26th November, 1683. Their children were : Joshua, born 26th May, 1643. 3, John, born 7th February, 1644. Sarah, born 9th December, 1645. Jonathan died young. Martha and Mary, born 25th December, 1650. Joseph, born 10th May, 1656. Hannah, born 10th February, 1659. Benjamin, born 17th February, 1662.

3. John, married Hannah ——, and had : 4, John, born 1675 at Dedham. Joshua, born at Wrentham 18th March, 1682 ; married Hannah Ware. Abigail, born 17th August, 1686. Nathaniel, born 9th May, 1687. Sarah died young. Deborah, born 1st August, 1692. Hannah, born —— ; married John Adams. The father died 14th September, 1706.

4. John, married Elizabeth —— ; Lieutenant. He died 14th September, 1706. He had : Nathan, born 6th August, 1704. 5, John, born 28th February, 1706.

5. John, married Jane Ware, 30th July, 1729. She died 17th June, 1788. They had : 6. Asa, born ——, 1730. Freelove, born 25th May, 1734. Meliseent, born 31st August, 1736. Billing, baptized 14th June, 1741. Olive, born 28th December, 1745.



Fisher Daniels

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6. Asa married Sarah Pond of Franklin; he died 28th October, 1809. She died 2d July, 1801. They had: Billing, born 24th May, 1756; married Abigail Fisher. 7, Asa, born 3d June, 1758. Meliscent, born 18th March, 1760; married Barzillai Pond, 18th October, 1782. Caroline, died young. Gideon, died at 17. Olive, born 1st March, 1767; married Joseph Morse of Hopkinton. Nathan, born 20th May, 1769. Elisha, born 6th June, 1771. Willard, born 10th October, 1773; married Susanna Lethbridge. John, born 6th January, 1775. Otis, died young.

7. Asa, Jr., Captain; was prominent officer in the Revolutionary War; he married Julitta Metcalf 23d November, 1784; he died 29th August, 1803. They had: Jerusha, born 6th January, 1786; married Simeon Bates of Bellingham. Julitta, born 10th April, 1788; married Rufus Gilmore and went to Newburgh, Me. Caroline, born 25th September, 1791; married Hon. Willis Fisher. Abigail, born 12th November, 1793. Asa, born 24th July, 1795, and removed to Providence, R. I. Sarah, born 1st May, 1804; married Elias Metcalf, and removed to Medway.

#### THE FISHER FAMILY

of Franklin came from at least two different importations. Our data are insufficient to solve all the perplexing interconnections. But the several lines have been traced back and joined as far as the records will allow. They will, it is hoped, prove long enough for the present generation of Fishers to hang themselves to their proper ancestry, if they have any such genealogical aspirations. It was once said that there were more Fishers than Ponds in Franklin. Strange if some were not without a line.

1. Thomas Fisher came from Winston, Cambridge, England, to Dedham in 1637, with his wife Elizabeth, and three children, viz.: 2, Samuel; Thomas, who married Rebecca Woodman and settled in Dedham, and Constance, who died young. He died 10th August, 1638, while building the Dedham meeting-house. His wife died 31st January, 1652.

2. Samuel married Melatiah Snow and became the first deacon of the Wrentham church, where he died 6th January, 1704. They had: Samuel married Abigail Heath, but left no children; Elizabeth married John Ellis; Hannah married George; Melatiah married Eleazer Metcalf—all born in Dedham. 3, Ebenezer,

born in Wrentham, 20th December, 1670; and Abigail married Daniel Farrington.

3. Ebenezer married Abigail Ellis, 1695; was Captain. He died 28th December, 1726. Their children were: Samuel, born 29th December, 1695, married Mary Fisher; Abigail married Benjamin Hawes; Ebenezer, born 7th October, 1700, married Hannah Whiting; Richard, born 7th August, 1702, married Esther Fisher; Mehitable died young; Melatiah married Jonathan Ware; Elizabeth married Joshua Ellis; Hepzibah died young; Jeremiah, born 12th October, 1711; 4, Jabez, born 19th November, 1717.

4. Jabez (see biographical sketches), honorable and deacon of Franklin church, married Mary Adams. He died 15th October, 1806. She died 10th September, 1801. Their children were: Jabez, born 11th December, 1741, died unmarried over 90 years.

5. Pelatiah born 23d March, 1744. Susannah probably died young.

6. Peter born 6th April, 1746. Ezra probably died young. Nathan

*Jabez Fisher*

born 14th September 1750, removed to Westboro, where he was Representative for twenty-five years. Susan married Joseph Fisher. Samuel, born 14th May, 1755, settled in Westboro. 7, Aaron, born 18th March, 1758. Mary married Jason Fisher.

5. Pelatiah married Irene Kingsbury 17th November, 1802. He died 19th May, 1828. She died 20th September, 1843, aged 77. His two children died in infaney, and he adopted Irene, daughter of Jason, who married Asa G. Norcross. He built and occupied the house in which Dr. Chambre resides.

6. Peter married Joanna —. He died 22d March, 1836. She died 26th September, 1822. Their children were: James, resided and died in Lowell, was Deputy Sheriff. 8, Perez, born 14th July, 1782. Lewis, 31st May, 1784. 9, Peter, Jr., 26th May, 1787. Joanna, unmarried.

7. Aaron married Rachel Fisher 18th October, 1787. He died 17th January, 1830. Their children were: Aaron, Jr., settled in Nashua, N. H.; Philo married and removed to Douglas.

8. Perez married Mary Perry 10th June, 1807, and had Smith

Perry, born 28th August, 1808; and Emeline, married Erastus L. Metcalf, now an extensive lumberman in town.

9. Peter, Jr., married Mary Hawes, 16th November, 1815. She died 22d May, 1836, and he married Mary Thurston. He died 27th June, 1859. They had children: Eliza Jane married Jonathan Pond of Medway; Joseph Hawes, now in Milford, N. H.; James Ferdinand; Lewis Leprelette.

Another prolific branch of the Fishers sprang from Anthony, who came with his family to Dedham in 1637 from Syleham, England, about ten miles from the home of Thomas in Winston. His

brother Joshua followed him to Dedham in 1640 with his family. The descendants of Joshua settled in Dedham and Medfield. Among them was Captain Daniel, Jr., who seized Sir Edmund Andros while Governor, and concealed the regicide Goffe, and sent him to Hadley with his daughter Lydia as pilot on a pillion behind him.

The coat of arms of the Fisher family of England, and used by Joshua Fisher, Sr., in this country, is given. It will be seen to be identical with that of the Dauphin of France, who received it from the last Count of Dauphine.

1. Anthony above had: 2, Anthony, Jr. 3, Cornelius. Nathaniel, Daniel, Lydia married Daniel Morse, all born in England. Nathaniel and Lydia went to Medfield, and their posterity, some of them, came into Franklin.

2. Anthony, Jr., married Joanna Faxin of Dedham, 7th September, 1647; he died 13th February, 1670. She died 16th October, 1694. They had: Mehitable; Josiah, born 1st May, 1654; Sarah; Eliezer, born 18th September, 1669.

3. Cornelius, a carpenter, married Leah Heaton of Dedham, 23d February, 1653. She died 12th January, 1664, and he married Sarah Everett, 24th July, 1665. She died 28th February,



1675. He removed to Wrentham with the first settlers, where he died 2d January, 1699, "being," the town records say, "the first head of a family died in the town of a natural death for thirty years." This qualifying clause must refer to the death of Joseph Kingsbury, in 1688, "in an awful and dreadful way," and no further described. His children were: Elizabeth; Leah; Experience; 4, Cornelius, Jr., born 8th February, 1660; Ann; 5, Eliezer, born 5th July, 1663. By his second wife, Dorothy; Sarah; Jonathan, the third death on the Wrentham records.

4. Cornelius, Jr., married Ann or Hannah Whiting, of Sherborn. She died 6th March, 1701, and he married Mercy Colburn of Dedham. She died, 20th September, 1726, and he married Mary Ware. He died 6th January, 1743, in his 84th year. His children were: Jonathan, died young; 6, Cornelius, born 29th September, 1692; Isaac, born 19th May, 1694; Ann, married Ebenezer Clark; 7, Joseph, born 11th May, 1698; 8, Benjamin, born 6th March, 1701; Mercy, married Samuel Fisher; Esther, born 27th October, 1710.

5. Eliezer married Hannah Leonard 21st March, 1688. He had: 9, Eliezer, Jr., and others born probably elsewhere and in Wrentham. Lenard, born 8th June, 1704; John, born 1st April, 1706.

6. Cornelius married Hannah Partridge 2d February, 1725. He owned land in Franklin at "Pabalutick" (Popolatic) near where he resided. He had seven daughters, no sons, and his name ended.

7. Joseph married Mary Sweetzer and had: 10, Joseph, born 31st August, 1724. The only child rerecorded.

8. Benjamin, married Anna Cowell, and had Martha; Benjamin, born 15th April, 1729; Daniel, born 14th January, 1731; Asa, born 17th September, 1732; Anna; Joshua, born 24th February 1737; Amos, born 19th August, 1739; 18, Joseph, born 6th October, 1741. (See No. 18 below).

9. Eliezer, Jr., married Rachel ——, and had: Daniel, born 6th February, 1722; Hannah, married Joseph Hawes; 11, Hezekiah, born 16th May, 1726; 25, Eleazer, born 30th January, 1730; Simeon, born 21st November, 1731; Rachel, married Timothy Fisher; Abijah, born 12th November, 1736.

10. Joseph married Margaret ——, and had: Joseph, born

31st August, 1753; Hannah; John, born 6th April, 1758; 12, Jason, born 28th June, 1760, married Mary Fisher.

11. Hezekiah married Abigail Daniels 4th September, 1751; resided in North Franklin. He died 27th June, 1809. She died 11th January, 1788, and he married, second, Dinah ——. She died 23d March, 1812. His children were: Eunice; 13, Asa, born 8th March, 1757; 14, Levi, born 8th ——, 1758; Moses, born 13th October, 1763; 15, Caleb, born 11th October, 1768.

12. Jason married Mary Fisher 27th November, 1783. She died 14th June, 1804, and he married second Olive Smith, 10th October, 1805. He died 29th September, 1822. His children: John, born 6th September, 1784; 16, Jason, born 30th March, 1787; Mary; Jemima, married Alfred Ware; Nathaniel, born 28th October, 1795; Charles Martel, born 24th July, 1799, and removed to Chelmsford; Irene, married Asa G. Norcross.

13. Asa married Rachel Adams. She died 4th March, 1830, and he married second Prudencee Keith. He died 23d November, 1843. His children were: Lewis, born 10th December, 1784, married Rebecca Berry; James and George W. died young; Patty, married Archibald De Witt; Nathan Austin, born 23d November, 1796, and removed to Westboro.

14. Levi married Mary Clark 9th June, 1785. She died 31st March, 1788, and he married second Susanna Clark, 13th April, 1809. She died 27th May, 1858. His children were: Mary, married William Adams, Jr.; Ruth, married Elisha Richardson; Sally, not married; Abigail, died young; Rena, married Elisha Bullard; Abigail, married Timothy Leland Pond; David, died young. By second wife: Levi Clark, born 7th January, 1810; David, born 20th January, 1812; Susanna, and Melinda.

15. Caleb married Sally Cushing 20th November, 1793. She died 11th August, 1835. He married, second, Achsah Metcalf. He died 6th August, 1862, in his 94th year. His children: Alexander Metcalf. (See biographical sketches.) 17, Willard, born 17th March, 1796. Eliza Tilestone; married Dr. John W. Tenney. (See biographical sketches.) Nancy, married Rev. Thomas Kidder. (See biographical sketches.)

16. Jason, Jr., married Mary Rich. He died 10th July, 1863. Their children were: George Nelson, born 4th May, 1813, resides

in Charlestown; Mary Adaline and John Warren, died young; Ellen Maria, died unmarried 29th March, 1872.

17. Willard married Betsey R. Wheeler. He died 14th January, 1866. His children: Alexander Metcalf, died in infancy; Sewall, born 9th November, 1834. Sarah, born 17th September, 1836. Betsey, died young. George. (See biographical sketches.) Abby, born 28th October, 1843.

Going back on these lines—on that of Anthony to (8) Benjamin, and on that of Thomas to (8) Jabez—you find Joseph of the one line married Susa of the other. Of this union came as follows:—

18. Joseph, married Susa Fisher, 1st January, 1773. He died 26th January, 1819. She died in 1842. Children: Susan, married Joseph Daniels. Nancy, married Nathan Gilmore; Eliab, born 24th February, 1779, removed, and has two sons in New York. 19. Willis, born 20th July, 1783. 20. Maxey, born 12th August, 1785. George. (See biographical sketches.) Joseph, died young. Hermon, born 25th June, 1792, removed to Bangor. Clara, died unmarried 14th May, 1833.

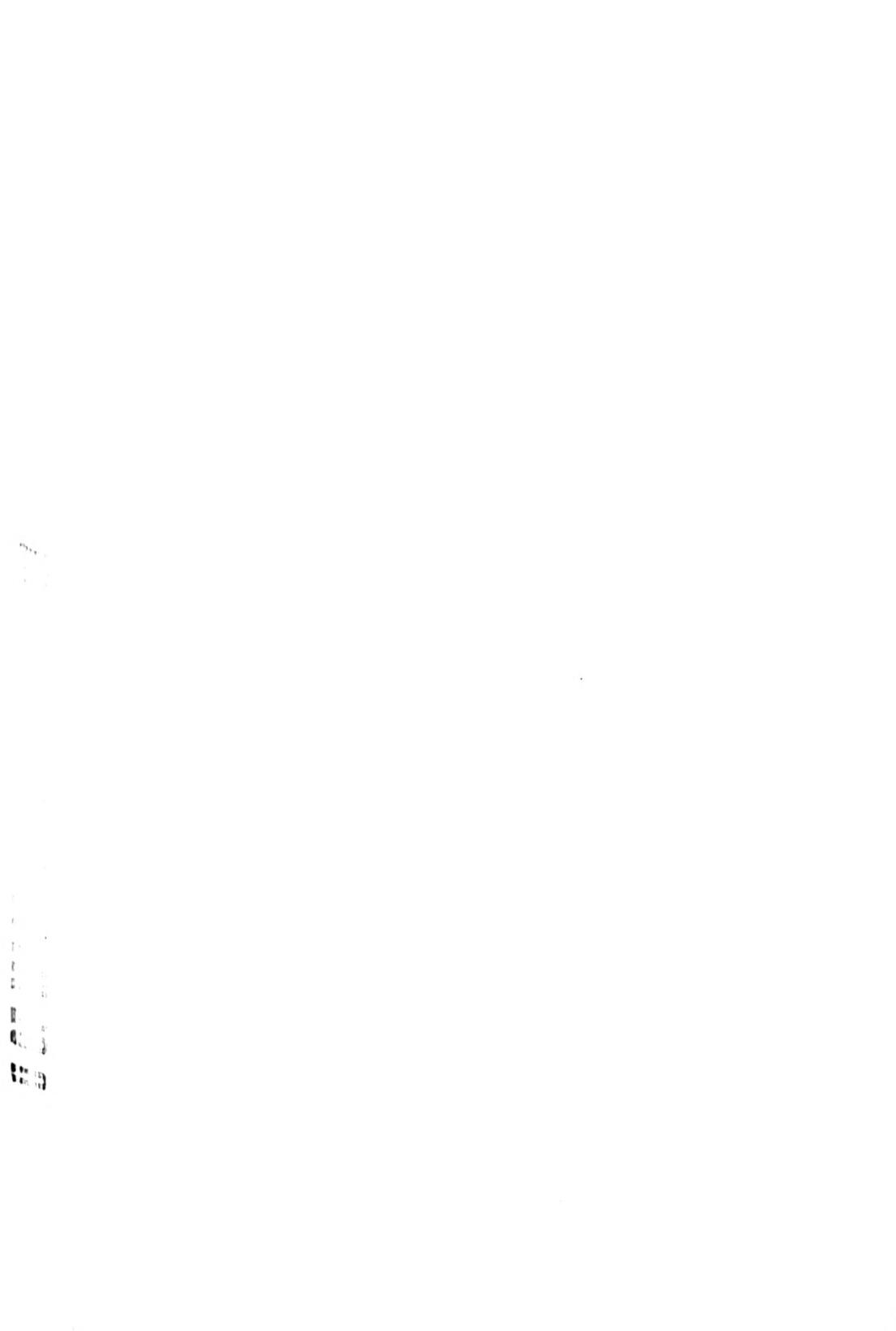
19. Willis married Caroline Fairbank 8th February, 1810. He died 1st January, 1866, aged over 82. She died 26th July 1858.

Esquire Fisher, whose portrait is given opposite, was a man of more than ordinary ability. He lived in the south part of the town, but was a regular attendant at church with his whole large family. He supervised a large farm, but found time to perform an extensive business as justice of the peace for years. He was frequently elected to town offices, although living away from the Center, was chosen Representative, etc. He had clear and positive convictions and a wide interest in all that pertained to the welfare of the town. His children were: Milton Metcalf. (See biographical sketches.) George Perkins, born 15th April, 1813. Abigail Bacon married first Charles Slocum, second Rev. Samuel Hunt. (See ecclesiastical notices.) Charles Willis, 11th November, 1820. Caroline Fairbanks and Ellen Maria died unmarried; Julia Francis married Rufus Chapin, and resides in Chicago.

20. Maxey married Persis Metcalf, 31st December, 1811. She died 24th March, 1835; married, second, Abigail——. He died 30th August, 1865, aged 80. Their children were: Sarah Hawk-



*Willis Fisher*



ins, died at 23 years; Louisa Jane married Rev. Edwin Thompson (see biographical sketches); Joseph Haven, born 23d June, 1817; Susan, married Rev. E. Thompson; Paul Metcalf, died young; Maria Richardson, Martha Emmons, Nancy, Elial, Clara, and Lucius W., died young; Hermon Maxey, born 24th August, 1821, and lives on the homestead.

Another branch line of the Franklin Fishers depends from (1) Thomas, (3) Ebenezer and his son.

21. Captain Ebenezer, Jr., married Hannah Whiting, 15th May, 1729, and had the following children: Ebenezer, born 28th July, 1730; 22, Timothy, born 8th December, 1732; David, born 1st September, 1735; James, born 25th February, 1737; Elijah, born 25th August, 1739; Hannah, Elizabeth and Susanna.

22. Timothy married Keturah Pond 2d October, 1755. He died 3d May, 1814. He had the following children: George, born 7th March, 1756; Royal, born 16th November, 1757; Oliver, born 7th May, 1759; Cyrus, born 25th December, 1760; Lewis, born 9th January, 1763; Hannah; 23, Timothy, Jr., born 2d August, 1767; and Keturah.

23. Timothy, Jr., married Hannah ——. She died 9th October, 1790, and he married, second, Doreas Cleveland of Medfield, 28th May, 1795. She died 6th July, 1860. His children: Abijah, born 2d November, 1788; Whiting, born 3d October, 1790, and removed to Sutton. By second wife he had: Harmon Cleveland, born 13th April, 1797. He was an active straw manufacturer for years and frequent public officer. He now resides in Haverhill. Had one child. Hannah married Ichabod Dean; 24, Adin, born 6th April, 1800; Adaline, and Charlotte.

24. Adin married Mary Clark 13th April, 1826. He has had several children and is still living in town.

Another branch of Fishers sprang from (1) Anthony, and (9) Eleazer through his son.

25. Eleazer. He married Mary Daws 7th December, 1756, and had: Olive; 26, Eleazer, Jr., born 18th July, 1759; Frederic, born 1st June, 1763. She died 14th October, 1806. He died 19th May, 1804.

26. Eleazer, Jr., married Susanna ——. He died 3d June, 1818. His children were: Harriet, born 2d March, 1790; Sam-

uel Biram, removed to New Hampshire; Frederic, born 28th December, 1794; Melia, born 27th November, 1798.

Still another line is traceable to Nathaniel, of Wrentham, who might have been of Nathaniel, the son of (1) Anthony, who went to Medfield.

27. Nathaniel was an original immigrant into Wrentham with his wife Hannah. They had four children in Wrentham: Joseph, born 30th March, 1729; 28, Nathaniel, born 13th December, 1730; Hannah, born 29th December, 1733, married Daniel Hawes;\* Elizabeth, born 14th October, 1734, married Asa Whiting.

28. Nathaniel, Jr., married Jemima Richardson 22d October, 1757. Their children were: Jemima, died young; Jacob and Jerusha, born 20th March, 1760; Amasa, born 19th September, 1762; Darius, born 26th July, 1765; 29, Lewis, born 6th December, 1767; Jemima, married Rev. W. Harris, D. D. (see biographical sketches).

29. Lewis married Abigail ——. He filled many town offices; was Representative for several years, State Senator, Justice of the Peace, etc. His wife died 25th February, 1809, aged about 40; and he married second Lula Chandler Bacon, of Sutton, 16th January, 1812. Their children were: Nathaniel, Jr., died young; Lewis Whiting (see biographical sketches); Harvey and Harlous, born 1st September, 1795; Harvey died young; Abigail Whiting died young; Nathaniel Emmons, born 29th September, 1800; Maria Ann; Caroline; John Hancock, born 23d January, 1807, is in California; Walter Harris, born 28th January, 1809, and resides in Norfolk. By second wife he had Abigail Ursula, married Adams Daniels, of Medway.

Other families of this name we have been unable to trace by the town records. Thus, of the family of Daniel C. Fisher we find no record of his marriage to either of his three wives. We learn their number only by the record of the deaths of Lurana, 15th May, 1807, and of Sarah, 20th January, 1810. He died 17th November, 1835. His children were: Betsey, died at 23 years; Julius, born 20th January, 1796; Daniel Cowell, born 30th August, 1800; Lucy Baker, born 1st May, 1803; David Baker, born 23d

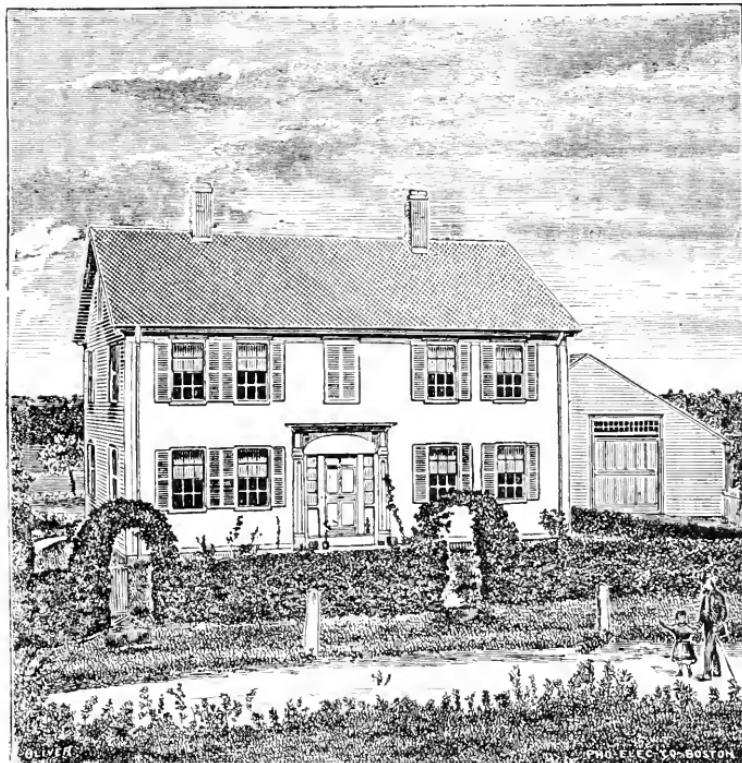
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\* Such persons were married at the proper age, but we are not sure of the identity.

May, 1809; Lurana died at 16; Charles Richmond. (See biographical sketches).

## THE FITZPATRICK FAMILY.

John L. Fitzpatrick came into town about 1845. He bought the house of John Broady, first built and occupied by Alfred Ware, which he has ornamented and made a very tasteful residence. A view of it is here inserted.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN L. FITZPATRICK.

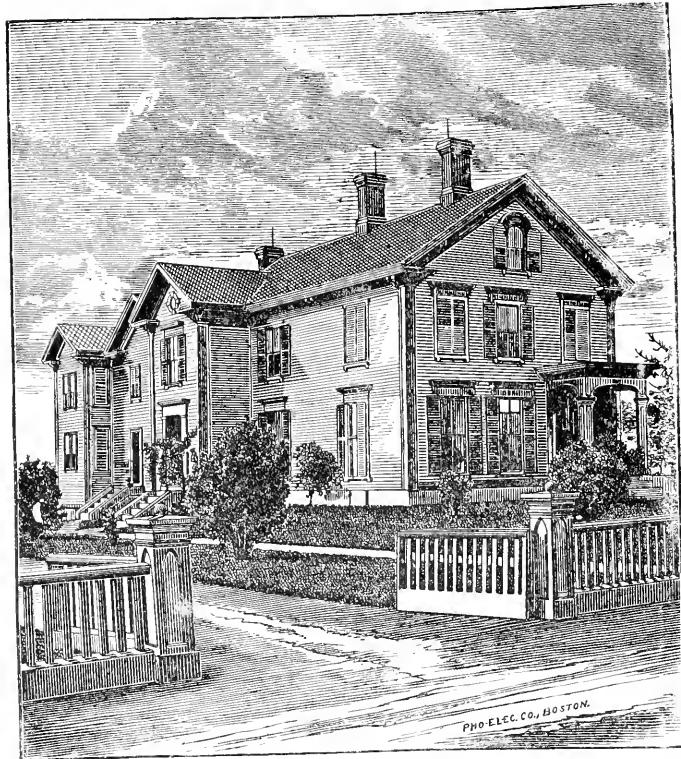
Mr. Fitzpatrick was the first mover towards the gathering of a Catholic congregation, and has been an influential member of it, as well as a justly respected citizen of the town.

## THE GAY FAMILY.

This family early disappeared from town. Edward, one of the petitioners for the Precinct charter, owned the farm afterwards

occupied by Aaron Fisher, and built the house still standing, being the first plank-house in town. He was descended from Edward and Rebecca (Fisher), of Wrentham, whose line is traceable through Samuel of Dedham (born 1639,) to John of Watertown.

Edward married Rachel Puffer 14th June, 1722. One of the original members of the Franklin church. He died 23d December,



RESIDENCE OF HENRY M. GREENE.

1730, in his 64th year. She died 17th May, 1754. They had: Rebekah, born 25th June, 1723, married Ezekiel Hall. Edward, Jr., born 8th May, 1726. Rachel, died young.

Edward, Jr., married first Margary ——, second Mary ——. He had nine children: Thomas, born 7th October, 1753; Rachel, born 24th August, 1755; Margary, born 11th December, 1757;

Zipporah, born 7th May, 1760; Timothy, born 17th June, 1762; Joseph, born 2d October, 1764; Susey, born 11th February, 1768. By second wife he had: Elizabeth, born 17th November, 1772; Doreas, born 21st April, 1775.

Of these children Thomas married Mary Bacon 12th January, 1786, and Timothy married Submit Blackman 1st December, 1785.

Timothy had: Edward, born 28th May, 1790; Willard, born 18th February, 1792; Mary, born 27th April, 1796; Timothy, Jr., born 2d November, 1797.

#### THE GREENE FAMILY.

Martin Greene, the first of the name in town, purchased the business and estate of Jason Morse, about a mile from the City Mills, not far from the beginning of 1800. He had two children, Henry M., and Angennette, present wife of David P. Baker.

Henry M. Greene has been an extensive straw-bonnet manufacturer. He has filled important civil offices in town. His portrait is in the group of the Centennial Committee. A view of his residence on Main street is given on the opposite page.

#### THE HALL FAMILY.

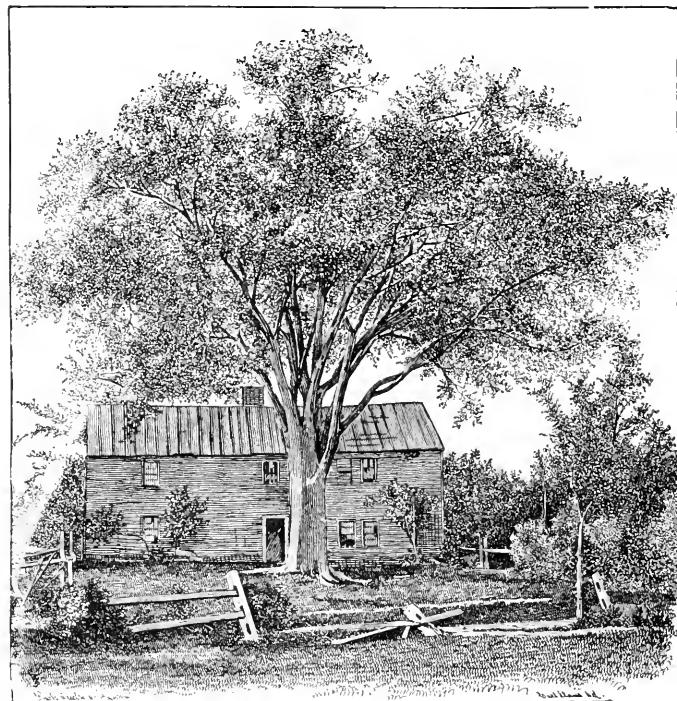
Edward Hall, one of the early settlers of West precinct, suddenly disappeared with his whole family, leaving only their names upon the records. He married Hannah Fisher, 7th February, 1722, and had: Edward, born 18th July, 1727; James, born 22d April, 1729; Hezekiah, born 9th August, 1730; Hannah, born 30th June, 1732; Mary, born 20th February, 1735; Seth, born 26th August, 1736. Where they went is not known.

#### THE HAWES FAMILY

is traceable back to the first settlement of Dedham.

1. Edward, of Dedham, married 15th April, 1648, Eliony Lumber, and had nine children. He died 28th June, 1686. His children were: Lydia; married a Gay. Mary. 2, Daniel, born 10th February, 1652; married Abial Gay. Hannah, married John Mason. John and Nathaniel died young. Abigail, married John Fales. Joseph. Deborah, married in Wrentham, first to Ephraim Pond; second, married a Bacon.

2. Daniel, of Wrentham, and Abial Gay were married 11th February, 1677. He died 16th March, 1739, aged 86. They had: Mary, married Eleazer Ware. Abigail, married Theodore Man. 3, Daniel, born 30th March, 1684; married Beria Man. Josiah. Hezekiah, married Esther Ware. Ruth, married Nathaniel Wright. Benjamin, married Abigail Fisher.



THE HAWES HOMESTEAD.

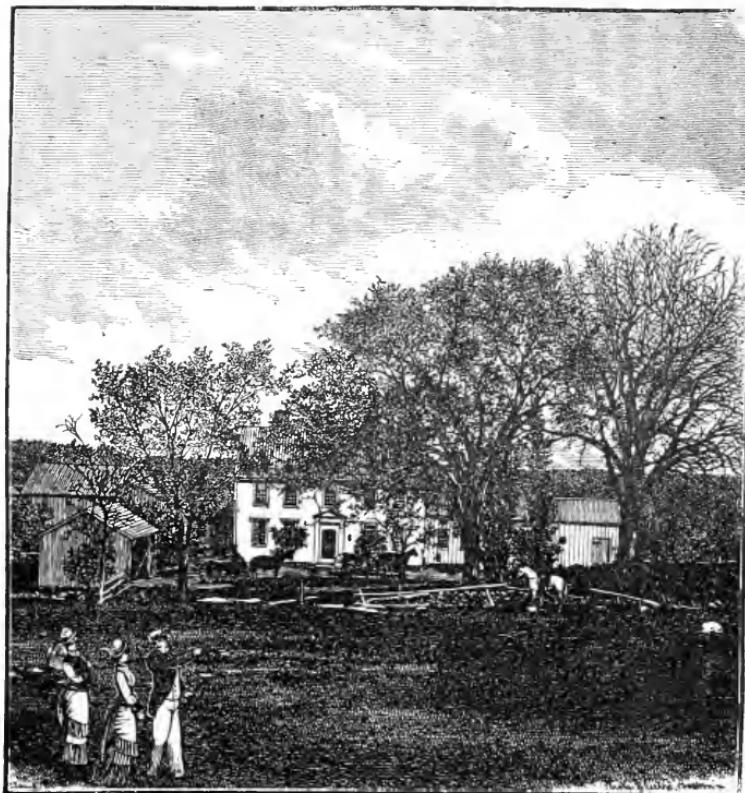
3. Daniel, Jr., of Franklin and Beria (Man) had eleven children: Daniel. Samuel. Pelatiah, married Judith Peck. Thomas. Aaron. Ichabod. Timothy, married Mary Ware. Beriah, and 4, Josiah, born 30th March, 1724. Mary, married Ebenezer Lawrence; and 5, Joseph, born 21st March, 1728.

A view of the Hawes homestead is here inserted. It is probably the oldest house in Franklin, built at least 175 years ago. Its

interior shows its great antiquity, and that it was erected to be a defense against Indian attacks.

4. Josiah married Meria Lyon, and had: Abijah and Matthias, who both went to Union, Me.; Mary; Jemima, married a Wight, of Bellingham; Beria; Levi, born 22d May, 1765.

5. Ensign Joseph married Hannah Fisher, 15th January, 1752.



MAJOR MOSES KNAPP'S HOMESTEAD.

He died 18th February, 1818. They had: 7, Moses, born 8th November, 1752; Susa; Joseph, married Hannah Whiting; Abigail; Amos, Captain, married Melatiah Everett, of Wrentham; Peter (see biographical sketches).

6. Levi, deacon of Franklin church from 1827 to his death, 9th May, 1839. He married Pamela Clark, 1st January, 1793, and had: Mary; Abigail, married Capt. Joel Hills, of Maine;

Josiah, born 14th December, 1804, married 30th November, 1826, Esther Taft, and went to Holliston.

7. Moses married Polly ——. He spent his early life in Union, Me. They had: Amelia, married 7th September, 1819, Dr. Elisha Harding (see biographical sketches); Eleanor, married Maj. Alfred Knapp; Mary, married Peter Fisher; and a daughter who married an Allen, father of Sabin and Amos H. Allen, and Clarinda.

On the preceding page is a view of the homestead of Maj. Moses Knapp, the father of Alfred, Hiram and Melville Knapp, and to which Alfred took the daughter of Moses Hawes. It is not far from Unionville, towards Bellingham, and a fine sample of the former homes of old Franklin.

Nathaniel Hawes, among the earliest members of the church and precinct, apparently came of another line. He married Susanna, and had seven children. The survivors were: Keziah, born 29th August, 1735; Jonathan, born 28th December, 1742; Edward, born 9th March, 1744; Esther, born 11th May, 1747.

2. Jonathan married Mary Partridge, and had: Susanna, Melatiah, Jason, Molly, Nathan; 3. Jonathan, born 2d April, 1773; Nathaniel.

3. Jonathan, Jr., married Sarah Adams, and had: Nathan, married Sylvia Winne; Susanna, married Hiram Clark, of Union, Conn.; Fanny, Sally, and Nathaniel married Eliza A. Weatherhead.

#### THE HILLS FAMILY.

1. Jabez was the first settler in Franklin about 1730, on the Warren Hills place. Whence he came is not known to the writer. He married in Wrentham 31st January, 1727, Martha Metcalf, and had: 2. Joseph, born 20th April, 1730; Benjamin, born 16th March, 1732; Ebenezer, born 7th January, 1735; David, born 24th January, 1736. He died 18th January, 1742.

2. Captain Joseph, married, first, Mary Ware, 14th February, 1763; second, Betty Pond. They had: 3, Jason, born 23d November, 1765; 4, Joseph, born 28th October, 1769; Mary married William Gilmore. He died 5th January, 1797.

3. Jason married Molly Grover of North Bridgewater, and had: Nancy; 5, Lewis, born 5th September, 1794; 6, Seneca, born 26th April, 1796; Betsey Pond; Warren, born 19th March,

1800; 7, Harvey, born 13th May, 1802; 8, Elias Ware, born 21st April, 1804; Polly and Caroline. He died 15th July, 1827.

4. Joseph married Deborah Blake, sister of Solomon. They had: 9, Lysander Blake, born 26th August, 1796; 10, Jarvis Harlow, born 16th December, 1798; Mary, married Samuel Fales; Olive Gilmore, married Capt. A. E. Daniels; 11, Theron Clement, born 11th April, 1808, married Deborah Snow.

5. Lewis, married Ann Lawrence, and had: Joseph G., and Louisa, who married Albert H. Ham, of Portsmouth, N. H.

6. Seneca married, first, Maria Richardson of East Medway, and had three children, of whom Abigail C. married E. L. Holbrook, the well-known organ builder. He married second Sarah M. Pratt of South Easton, and had three children, two of whom now reside with their mother in Taunton.

7. Harvey married, first, Abigail Henderson of Medway, and had three children; second Mary E. Ham of Portsmouth, N. H.

8. Elias W., removed to Portland Me., and married Lois Smith; has three children.

9. Lysander B., married Elizabeth Lumbert, and had: Melissa Blake, married Augustus M. Blake; Deborah Elizabeth, married Hartwell Morse; Sanford, married Mary C. Metcalf; Mary Fales married first Reuben Crossley, second William Banke.

10. Jarvis H. married Phila Brown, and had no children.

11. Theron C. married Hannah D. Snow, and had no children.

#### THE JONES FAMILY.

David Jones, petitioner for a precinct and its third treasurer, was descended from David, of Dorchester, who married, 1659, Sarah Topliff, and died 27th September, 1694, aged 66. His son David married, 1685, Ann Bullard. David, Jr., his son, appears first in Wrentham with his wife Sarah in 1711, where his six children are recorded; viz.: Ann, married Jonathan Nelson. Sarah. David, 3d. Praisiver. 2, Seth. Mary. He, Seth and Mary were members of the church.

David, 3d, married Esther Blake, and had Chloe, Elias, and David. 2, Seth by his wife Esther had Esther and Betty. The whole family removed to Abington not long after the incorporation of the precinct.

## THE KINGSBURY FAMILY.

1. Joseph, Dedham, 1637; married Melliscent —— and died 1676. They had Sarah; married Robert Crossman, of Taunton. Mary; married Dea. Thomas Cooper, of Rehoboth. Elizabeth; married Nathaniel Brewer, of Roxbury. 2, Joseph, Jr., who went to Wrentham. John: married Elizabeth Fuller (afterwards wife of Michael Metcalf.) Eleazer, married Esther Judson. 3, Nathaniel.

2. Joseph, Jr.; married Mary Donier and had, born in Dedham: John. Elizabeth; married William Briggs, of Taunton. Eleazer, born 12th May, 1673; tailor in Wrentham, who turned preacher, went to Cape May and changed his name to Berry. Hannah. Mary and Merey (twins). Marah.

3. Nathaniel; married Mary ——, and had Nathaniel, Jr., born 14th September, 1674; married Abigail Baker. She died at 90. James. Timothy. John. 4, Daniel, born 11th November, 1688. Melliscent.

4. Daniel; married Elizabeth Stephens, of Dedham. He died 27th April, 1754. Their children were: 5, Daniel, born 12th March, 1715. 6, Stephen, 1716. Elizabeth; married Joshua Partridge. Mary; married Joseph Harding.

5. Daniel, Jr., first deacon of Franklin church, married, first, Berriah, daughter of Theodore Mann; she died 27th April, 1754; married, second, Abigail, widow of Peter Adams, 9th October, 1755. Their children were: Nathaniel, born 18th February, 1739. Lydia, born 19th November, 1740; married Amos Holbrook. Daniel, born 1741; went to Keene, N. H. Samuel. John. 7, Timothy, born 6th August, 1746. James, born 3d January, 1748; married Mary Upton, and was father of Rev. Samuel. (See biographical sketches.) John. Theodore. By his second wife, Peter and Benjamin, twins.

6. Stephen, married Silence, daughter of Samuel Partridge. He died 23d April, 1754. Their children were: Moses and Aaron, born 1743. Moses died 1771, leaving three children, namely: Cyrus, who married Philista Partridge; went to Alstead, N. H., and was father of Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, D. D. B. U. 1812, and missionary to the Choctaws. Moses, Matilda; Lois married a Metcalf. Benjamin, Abigail; Olive married Noah Haven. 8, Stephen posthumous, born 3d August, 1754.

7. Timothy, married Judah Adams 5th January, 1769. He died 21st December, 1824. Their children were: Judith, Mili- cent, Beriah; Ebenezer Adams, born 2d January, 1781. Ebenezer A. was father of Fisher A., Lawton, Nathaniel Davis, Clarissa, Polly, and Abner D. All have left town.

8. Stephen, married Abigail Allen 3d June, 1777. He died 23d September, 1809. She died 31st January, 1820. Their children were: Matilda, born 15th June, 1778; married John Wilkes Richardson. Horatio, died at 18. 9, Stephen, born 10th September, 1782. Abigail, born 11th August, 1787. Samuel Allen. (See biographical notices).

9. Stephen, married Olive Haven 10th April, 1811. Their children were: Horatio, born 29th February, 1812; married Adelia Robbins, daughter of James and Rena Gilmore. John Haven, born 13th September, 1819; married Harriet S. Merrifield.

#### THE LAWRENCE FAMILY.

There were two petitioners of this name, David, Jr., and Ebenezer, both of them originating in Wrentham.

1. David, Sen., and Bethyah had David, Jr., born 3d September, 1712. Bethyah, born 31st August, 1713; married Andrew Blake 22d February, 1749. Phebe, born 25th March, 1715.

2. David, Jr., married Elizabeth. They had ten children: Joseph, born 22d August, 1745. Isaiah, born 3d September, 1747. Eliakim (baptized in Franklin, 1750). Eunice; perhaps married Titus Metcalf, 8th May, 1793. Amos, born 15th January, 1755. Joseph, born 26th March, 1757; married Anna Hills 22d January, 1784. Elizabeth, born 14th March, 1758. Joshua, born 11th September, 1759. David (baptized in Franklin, 1766); married Lois Reid. Cephas (baptized in Franklin, 1762); married Esther Whiting 26th November, 1789. This family is not further traceable.

By another apparently different line comes Ebenezer. He was a son of John. Ebenezer and Mary have seven children recorded: Sarah, born 30th May, 1709; married Isaac Wheeler 8th May, 1734. Mary, born 25th May, 1711. John, born 27th June, 1713. Mercy, born 25th February, 1714. Margaret, born 5th July, 1716. Hannah, born 30th May, 1719. Ebenezer, Jr., born 11th May, 1721.

Ebenezer, Jr., married Mary Haws, 11th February, 1746. She died 9th February, 1778, and he married, second, Widow Mary Harding. He had: Joshua, born 20th December, 1746. Moses, born 28th May, 1748. Abigail, born 14th June, 1749: married Elisha Richardson. Rachel, born 13th February, 1751: married Thaddeus Adams. Beria and Meria, born 11th January, 1753; Beria married Dea. Philip Blake 10th February, 1796. Meria married David Hartshorn 4th September, 1788. Ebenezer and Rebecca, born 8th April, 1755. Seth (baptized in Franklin, 1757). The father died 4th October, 1796.

#### THE MAKEPEACE FAMILY

made but a brief tarrying in town. It first appears in the marriage, 16th April, 1794, of William Makepeace and Mary Whiting. He settled in Unionville, where he built a thread-mill with Col. A. DeWitt. A portrait of Mr. Makepeace is given in connection with this sketch. His homestead will be found with the Rockwood family. The children of William and Mary Makepeace were: William, Jr., born 2d March, 1795, removed to Boston. Polly, born 18th May, 1798; married Archibald DeWitt. George Le Mont, born 17th October, 1801; removed to Rutland(?).

#### THE MANN FAMILY.

The Franklin branch was descended from Rev. Samuel Mann, the first minister of Wrentham, through his sixth child, Thomas. For some notice of the family see Address, page 20.

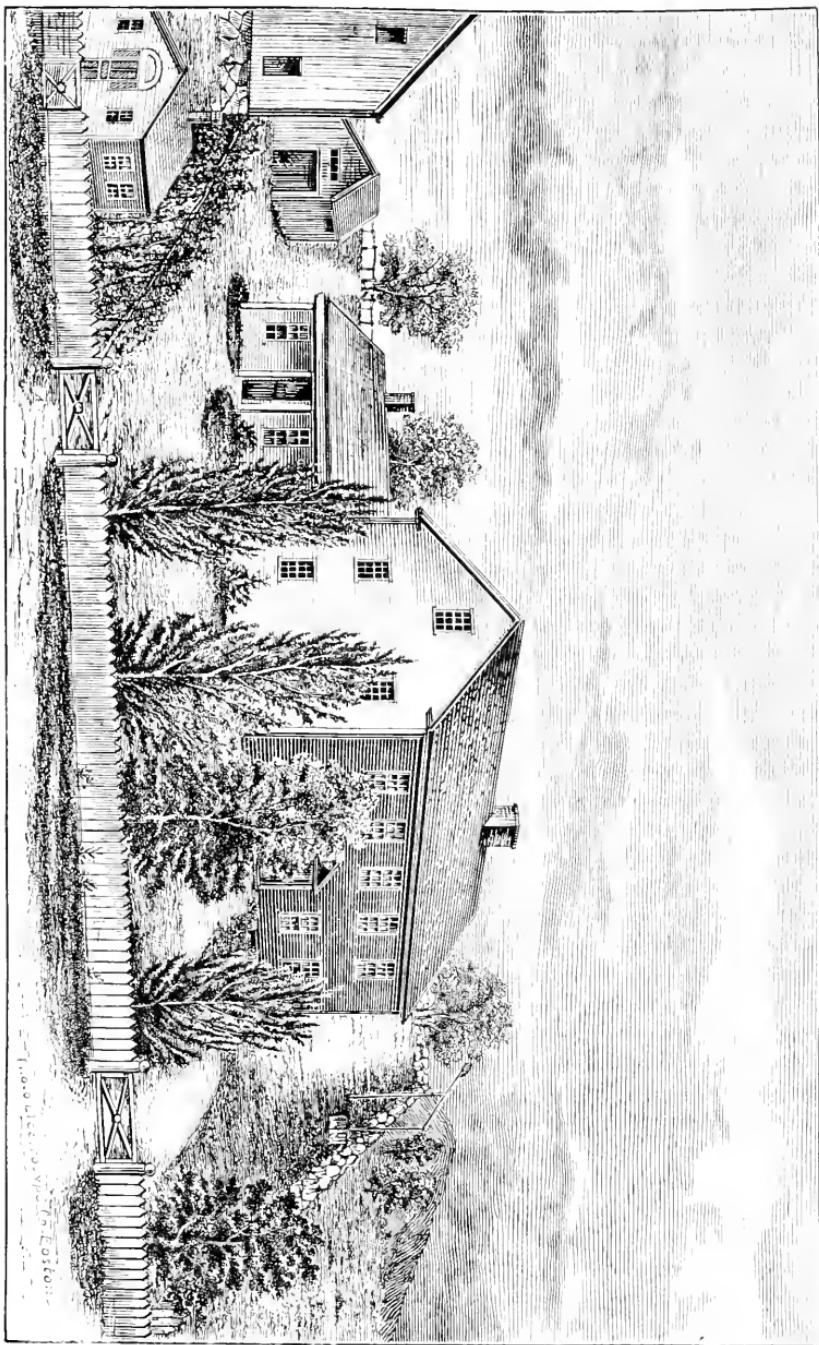
Thomas was born 24th October, 1682, married Hannah Aldis and had seven children. He was among the first settlers in Franklin, on what was called "Mann's Plain." A view of the Mann homestead has been furnished by Mrs. Rebecca M. (Pennell) Dean, sketched from her early recollections and is given opposite, as the birthplace of Horace Mann.

The children of Thomas and Hannah Mann were: Hannah, married Eleazer Ware; Esther, married Robert Ware; Rachel; 3, Nathan, born 15th October, 1716; Ruth, married Benjamin Rockwood; Hepzibah, married Pelatiah Metcalf; Mary, married Jabez Ware.

3. Nathan married Esther, and had: Esther, Lois, Abial,



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BIRTHPLACE OF HON. HORACE MANN.





W.M. MAKEPEACE, ESQ.



Mary; 4, Elias, born 27th July, 1754; 5, Thomas, born 21st December, 1755; and 6, Nathan, birth not recorded.

4. Elias married Mary Ware, 6th May, 1779, and had: Eldod, Seneca, Esther, Polly; Rosalinda, married John Alley from New Bedford; Betsey, married in Maine; and Watts, not married.

5. Thomas married Rebecca Stanley, and had: Rebecca, married Calvin Pennel, of Colraine (see Calvin S. in biographical sketches); Thomas Stanley, born 3d December, 1788; Stephen, born 23d October, 1792; Horace (see biographical sketches); Lydia Bishop, born 30th July, 1798.

6. Nathan married Eunice Guild, and had: Eunice, born 24th December, 1778; Jemima, born 21st April, 1780; Chloe, born 31st August, 1782; Synthe, married Nathan Place, of Cumberland, and died early; Nathan, Jr., born 2d February, 1788.

7. Nathan, Jr., married Margaret, and had: Emeline Copps, Cynthia Place, and Harriet Emily.

None of this branch now remains in town.

#### THE METCALF FAMILY.

This numerous family has been traced by Dr. J. G. Metcalf of Mendon, to Rev. LEONARD METCALF, rector of Tatterford, England, born 1545, through his son Michael, who fled from the persecutions of Bishop Wren, and settled in Dedham with his wife and nine children in 1637. Michael, his oldest son, had five children, of whom four, at least, settled in Wrentham, viz.: Mary, married John Ware; Sarah, married Robert Ware; Jonathan, and 1, Eleazer.

1. Eleazer, born 20th March, 1653, was an original member and the second deacon of the Wrentham church. He married Melatiah Fisher 9th April, 1684, and died 17th August, 1742. He had eight children: 2, Eleazer, Jr., born 30th May, 1685; 3, Michael, born 25th January, 1687; 4, Samuel, born 15th June, 1689; 5, Ebenezer, born 8th January, 1691; 6, Jonathan, born 9th April, 1693; Melatiah, married James Cheever; 7, Timothy, born 2d July, 1697; Martha, married Jabish Hills.

3. Michael married Abial Colburn 23d December, 1712, and had twelve children. He was an original member and a ruling elder in the Franklin church. He had: 8, Pelatiah, born 28th March, 1714; 9, Michael, born 24th January, 1719; 10, Barna-

bas, born 20th July, 1720; Melatiah, married Joseph Ellis; 11, Joseph, born 20th February, 1723, a doctor; 12, John, born 25th September, 1725; 13, Ebenezer, also a doctor, born 1st June, 1727; 14, James, born 1st August, 1729; Mary, married John Smith; Abiel, married Michael Ware; Esther, married Asa Fisher.

4. Sammel, married Judith George, 20th May, 1725, and had three sons and four daughters. Of these were: 15, George, born 2d June, 1730; 16, John, born 3d July, 1734.

6. Jonathan, married Hannah Clark, was deacon of Medway church. He had one son, 17, Jonathan, and five daughters: Hannah, Lois, Abigail, Jerusha, and Sarah.

9. Michael married Hannah Adams 16th December, 1741. They had ten children, of whom the following survived: 18, Eli, born 14th October, 1742; 19, Philemon, born 14th April, 1752; 20, Titus, born 23d April, 1754; 21, Hanan, born 6th October, 1756; Molly, married John Merrifield; Achsa, married Simeon Partridge; Patty, married Nathan Metcalf.

10. Barnabas married Rebeka Healy, 5th March, 1745, and had seven children, of whom two are known to have had families in Franklin: 22, Asa, born 16th May, 1754; 23, Nathan, born 26th February, 1765.

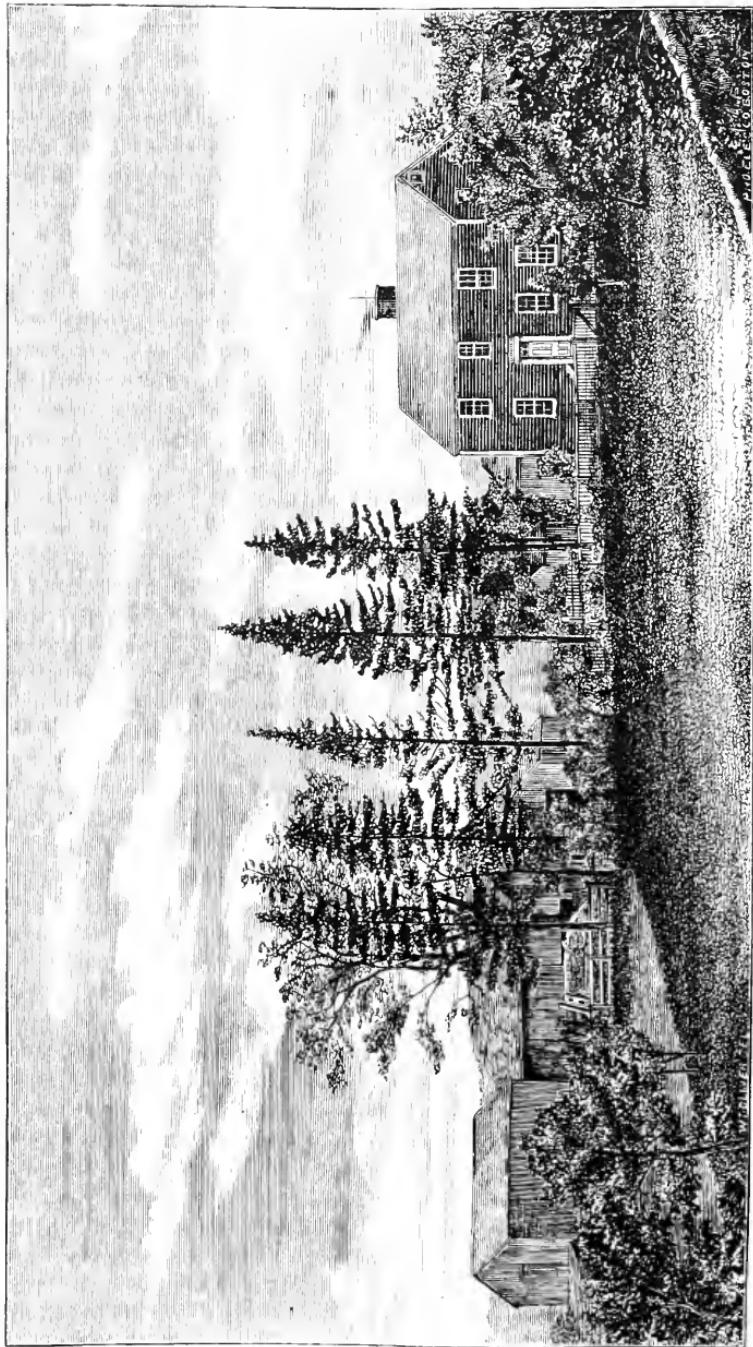
11. Joseph married Hannah ——. They had six children, baptized in Franklin, viz.: Martha, Mehitable, Luther, Susanna, Calvin, and Joseph. Of them no more is known.

13. Ebenezer married Hannah Morse 27th November, 1755. He was the first physician in West Precinct (see biographical sketches). They had: Elijah, baptized 14th November, 1756; Polly, born 26th August, 1758; 24, Paul, born 7th March, 1766, (see biographical sketches).

14. James married Abial Haven. He was Colonel, and had seven children: 25, Billy, afterwards changed to William Haven, born 23d December, 1754; Jerusha, married Nathan Wight; 26, James, born 11th August, 1755 (so recorded); Juletta, married Capt. Asa Fairbanks; Eliab, born 11th January, 1767; Abijah, born 19th October, 1770, and Polly.

15. George married Joanna, daughter of Ezra Pond, 6th June, 1751, and had ten children. The sons were: 27, Samuel, born 21st May, 1753; 28, Timothy, born 27th November, 1754; 29, George, born 27th July, 1759.





NATHAN METCALF HOMESTEAD.

16. John, doctor, married Eunice Metcalf (see biographical sketches). They had: 30, Ferdinand, born 22d November, 1760 (see biographical sketches); 31, William Pitt, born 30th June, 1774 (see biographical sketches).

17. Jonathan, Jr., married Bathsheba ——, and lived in North Franklin. He had seven children. Among them: 32, Jonathan, deacon of West Medway church, born 20th April, 1763.

20. Titus married, first, Peggy Fisher, 13th November, 1783; second, Eunice Lawrence, 8th May, 1793. He was blind. He had: Peggy, born 12th September, 1791; Paul, born 28th February, 1796.

21. Hanan married, first, Mary Allen, 21st October, 1779; second, Prudence Keith. He lived at the south end of the Common. His children were: Judson, died young; Theron (see biographical sketches); Achsah, married Caleb Fisher.

22. Asa married, first, Ruth Clark, 6th November, 1782; second Melia Ware, 12th March, 1788. They had: Mary; Asa, Jr., born 4th April, 1786; Elivira married Luther Gowen; Melia married Samuel Byram Fisher, and removed to Alstead, N. H.; Artemas, died young.

23. Nathan married Patty Metcalf, 18th September, 1788. She died 27th June, 1809, and he married Abigail Richardson 28th June, 1810. He died 13th June, 1843. His children were: Harvey, born 13th June, 1789; Sena, married Rufus Miller; Junia, born 20th July, 1794; Olive, married Seth Wardworth; Nathan, born 26th March, 1799; 33, Michael, born 12th August, 1802; Patty; Roxana, died young; Abigail R., died young; Abigail Larinda; 34, Richardson, born 3d June, 1818; Juliana.

24. Dr. Paul (see biographical sketches) married Persis Richardson 2d February, 1791. Had only: Persis, born 20th June, 1792, married Maxey Fisher 8th December, 1811.

25. Billy, or William Haven, married Patty Richardson 14th Jan., 1776, and had: 35, Willard, born 3d February, 1777; Polly, died young; Margaret, died young; Patty, married John Crooks; Ebenezer, died young; 36, William, born 8th March, 1790; Abigail; Mary, married Henry Daniels; Elizabeth.

26. Deacon James married Abigail Harding 1st April, 1778. The first marriage after incorporation of town. She died 3d

February, 1815, and he married widow Olive Gilmore. He died 18th July, 1843. Their children were: 37, Whiting, born 31st January, 1779; Alfred (see biographical sketches); Eliab (see biographical sketches); Julitta, married Capt. Samuel Allen of Medway; Electa, unmarried.

31. William Pitt, "Dr.," married Susanna Torrey, 25th November, 1800, and had: John George, "Dr." (see biographical sketches); Mary Elizabeth, married Hiram Stone; William Torry, born 6th February, 1806; Ebenezer Torry, born 30th October, 1812.

32. Jonathan, deacon of the West Medway Congregational church, married Mary —— and had eight children, among them Eliel, born 14th July, 1803; Albert, born 20th September, 1808, (see biographical sketches).

33. Michael, Jr., married first Sally Clark, second Melia Breck, and had four children.

34. Richardson, married first Mary A. Baker, second Harriet Metcalf. He lives on the old homestead. A view of it is given as it is to-day opposite the previous page.

35. Willard married Lucy Allen 25th January, 1802, and had five children. One only survived, Charles, born 22d November, 1810, who married Eliza Cook.

36. William married Sally Gaskill 15th January, 1817, and had two sons: William Warren (see biographical sketches) and Alfred Gibbs.

37. Whiting, deacon of Medway village church, married Betsey Dean, October, 1804, and had eight children, of whom these survived: Abijah Whiting, born 7th December, 1805; Gilbert Dean, born 17th April, 1807; Alfred Harding, born 27th April, 1817; Erasmus B., born 8th August, 1819; Charles Edwards, born 3d February, 1822. Betsey Whiting married George F. Kingman, and resides in New Bedford.

#### THE MILLER FAMILY

has been substantially given under the biographical sketches, but a view of the home of this family finds its appropriate place here among other households. The Miller Hospital will be found among the notices of Franklin physicians. The Miller family came from Rehoboth. Two sons of Philip, viz.; Philip, Jr., and Nathaniel



DR. NATH'L MILLER HOMESTEAD.



(see biographical sketches). Philip, married Lephe ——, and had several children. He was a man of some peculiarities, and one of the first and most ardent advocates of temperance. Both families are without representatives in town.

#### THE MORSE FAMILY.

Samuel, the petitioner of 1738, was descended through Dea. John, of Watertown, from Samuel, immigrant, of Dedham, 1637, and of whom the "Morse Genealogy" gives a full account.

Samuel above was son of Samuel and Sarah Hill, of Wrentham, born 7th June, 1702, and died 25th April, 1782. They had: Samuel, Jr. Benoni. Sarah; married Robert Worsely. Hannah; married Dr. Ebenezer Metcalf. (See biographical sketches.) By second wife, Sarah Wheeler, he had Dinah; married Abijah Newton. Hannah. Submit; married Abraham Amsden.

Samuel, Jr., born 4th May, 1733; married Sarah Day. He died 3d June, 1798. She died 23d January, 1800. They had eleven children, of whom Samuel died in the army at Fort George, 26th July, 1776. The others were: Jason; Peggy; married Sylvester Partridge, of Franklin. Levi; married Keturah Fisher. Hannah; married Solomon Blake.

Jason, born 19th October, 1762; married, first, Olive Blake. She died 19th November, 1790; married, second, Esther ——, died 21st December, 1804; married, third, Miriam Smith, of Norton. He had nine children: Olive; married Sydney Whiting. Jason, removed to Grafton. Harvey; removed to Enfield. Lucy; married Piam Bullard. Joseph. George W.; removed to Rutland, Vt. Amos H.; removed to Syracuse, N. Y. Caroline; married Calvin Smith, and removed to Dorchester.

Darius, who lived in the rear of the old meeting-house, descended from the same Samuel, but through the line of Joseph and Hannah (Phillips), of Dorchester, via Jeremiah and Elizabeth, of Medfield, Benjamin and Sarah (Blake) of Wrentham, and Moses and Lydia (Daniels) of Wrentham. Darius, born 29th May, 1769; married "Pede" or Experience Adams. They had nine children: Moses, married Lydia Thompson and removed to Middlefield, O. Rhoda, married Jedediah Phipps, and had four children. The others died unmarried, or without issue, in rapid succession from consumption.

## NEWE FAMILY.

James, the petitioner, made apparently but a short stay in town, as I find few records of him or his family either in Wrentham or Franklin. He was already married on arrival, and has only one birth entered. He is said to have been a grave-stone cutter, as was also his son John. Probably the longevity of the inhabitants compelled his withdrawal. His second wife lived over a century. Many anecdotes still survive her. She originated the saying of "trusting in Providence till her saddle-girth broke."

James was son of John and Mary, born in Wrentham 8th July, 1722, and married, first, Mary or Merey, and afterwards Mrs. Sarah (Blake) Fisher of Keene, N. H. He had: Merey, Mary; James, born 3d September, 1751, and John, born 26th May, 1755. They probably returned to Wrentham.

## PARTRIDGE FAMILY

came probably from Medfield, as two families of this name were among the early settlers of Medfield — William and John, and none of the names appears in Wrentham earlier than 1711. Three families were in Franklin in 1738 — Ebenezer, Job, and Samuel. The children of these so far as recorded at Wrentham were: Of Job and Abigail, Benoni, born 24th March, 1727. His wife died 1st April following, and he married Ann Cook 28th February, 1729. Had Jobe, died at 12 years. Anna first and second; Rhoda died at 7 years. Seth born 20th March, 1737. Levi, 22d September, 1739. Of this family no more is known. Their stones are the oldest legible in the Central cemetery.

Of Ebenezer and Elizabeth. Elizabeth died in her 8th year. Hannah married probably David Wood 8th May, 1771; and Abigail married John Allen 11th July, 1771, and this family also ends.

Samuel and Mary. He died 25th December, 1774. She died 29th July, 1775. They had: Samuel; Amos, born 25th July, 1742, "Lieutenant," and married Melitiah; Reuben, born 14th April, 1744, and married Mary Hill, 7th April, 1768. Mary married Jonathan Hawes 5th March, 1764. Rhoda; David, born 22d July, 1750; died November, 1781. Elizabeth, born 8th October, 1752.

Samuel, Jr., born 31st March, 1741, married Keziah Hawes 2d February, 1764, but no children have been found. He died 28th January, 1776.

The Partridges appearing later cannot be traced to any of these parental nests. They may have alighted from Medway.

Eleazer and Lois Rockwood had: Melitable, born 29th May, 1779; Kezia, born 10th September, 1780; Eleazer, Jr., and Ithamar, born 27th May, 1782 (latter died 7th April, 1807); Nathan, born 1st August, 1786; Asa, married Polly Richardson; no children.

Phineas, Jr., married, first, Abigail, and had: Allen, born 18th January, 1804; Abigail Harding, married, G. Wellington Hunt of Medway; Elmira; Dianthe; Clarissa Prentiss married Rev. A. Hawes (see biographical sketches). He married, second, Polly Wheeler and had: Asa, born 7th August, 1820; John Wheeler, born 5th January, 1822; Charles, born 2d February, 1831.

Nathan married Sally Bassett 12th January, 1815, and had Julitta Richardson; Mary Bassett; George Ithamar; Harriet Maria, married —— Miller of Providence, R. I.; Charlotte.

Eleazer, Jr., married, first, Mary ——. She died 16th December, 1812, and he married Hannah Keith. He had: Mary Clark, married Rev. W. Phipps (see biographical sketches); Lois Rockwood; Sylvia Pond, married Joseph Lovell of Medway. By second wife he had Julia Ann, Eliza Jane, and Harriet Keith.

Elisha of Medfield, who resided in Franklin during his life and married Dorcas Pond, had six children, five of whom migrated to Maine. Simeon, the oldest, born 19th May, 1758, remained and married Achsa, daughter of Michael Metcalf. He died 7th January, 1825. She died 15th December, 1819. They had: Achsa, married Alphens Adams; Rena, married James Gilmore; Miriam, married Simeon Powers of Croyden; Hannah, married David W. Daniels.

#### THE POND FAMILY.\*

1. Daniel, immigrant ancestor of all the Ponds in Franklin, appears first in Dedham, 1652; bought lands in Wrentham, 1663, on which some of his sons settled. He married, first, Abigail, daugh-

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\* From a Genealogy compiled by E. D. Harris, Saratoga, N. Y. For convenient reference the same figures are used as in the "Genealogy."

ter of Edward Shepard, of Cambridge; second, Ann Edwards. She died 6th June, 1732, aged about 92. He died in Dedham, 4th February, 1698. He had thirteen children, of whom three sons lived in Wrentham: 4, John; 5, Ephraim, baptized 6th July, 1656; 9, Robert, born 5th August, 1667.

4. John settled in North Franklin, afterwards set off to Medway; was thrice married, and was living in 1734; had nine children; two only appear to have lived in Franklin. 15, John, born about 1688; 17, David, born 2d April, 1690.

5. Ephraim, a carpenter, married Deborah, daughter of Edward and Eleony (Lumber) Hawes. He died 22d December, 1704, and she married a Bacon. Had nine children: 26, Daniel, born 22d September, 1689, died unmarried; 27, Deborah, born 13th September, 1693, and married Daniel Thurston; 28, Samuel, born 29th December, 1695; 29, Eleony, born 15th August, 1704, and married John Shepard, of Foxboro, who lived a hundred years and in four towns without moving.

9. Robert, Captain, and carpenter, lived near Mine Brook. He married, first, Joanna Lawrencee; second, Abigail Fisher; third, widow Sarah Shuttleworth. He had nine children: 35, Anne, born 2d October, 1689, married John Partridge, of Medfield; 40, Ezra; 41, Ichabod, born 31st May, 1699; 42, Baruch, born 1702; 43, Eunice, married John Goldsbury.

15. John had lands at "long walk" in Franklin. He married Rachel Fisher. He died 12th March, 1759. She died 15th February, 1770. Had six children: 56, John, born 29th February, 1723; 57, Daniel, born 13th May, 1724; 58, Benjamin, born 15th June, 1726.

17. David lived also at "long walk," and was of uncommon height and strength, hence, perhaps, he pitched the tune so high (see page 31). He was founder of the West Medway church. He married Sarah Richardson, and died 24th March, 1775. Had seven children: 60, David, went to Keene, N. H.; 61, Stephen, removed to Attleboro; 63, Ebenezer, born 4th July, 1728.

26. Daniel, had land at "long walk;" no record of his marriage.

28. Samuel, lived at Mine Brook; married Mary Thurston. He died 6th April, 1746. She afterwards married Dea. John Barber, Medway. Had nine children, but three only lived in Frank-

lin: 87, Samuel, born 22d June, 1729. 89, Bathsheba, born 9th August, 1734; married Jonathan Metcalf, Jr. 90, Timothy, born 13th August, 1737.

40. Ezra, town clerk of Wrentham, lived at first on the homestead; married first Abigail Farrington, second Margaret, widow of Eleazer Metcalf. He died after 1782. Had eleven children, all by first wife. 101, Robert, born 2d February, 1720. 102, Ezra, born 26th March, 1721. 103, Abigail, born 29th September, 1723; married first a Peter Adams, second Dea. Daniel Kingsbury. 104, Oliver, born 22d March, 1725. 105, Reuben, born 16th January, 1727. 106, James, drowned in Charles river, 1789. 107, Joanna, born 2d August, 1730; married George Metcalf. 108, Hezekiah, born 17th March, 1733. 111, Elijah, born 3d February, 1739.

41. Ichabod, lived near Mine Brook. He married first Milcah Farrington, second Deborah Thurston, third Mehitable, widow of John Aldis. He died 2d May, 1783. Had twelve children: 113, Elisha, born 25th March, 1725. 115, Nathan, went to Walpole. 117, Benjamin, born 21st March, 1732. 120, Lois, married Henry Daniel. 121, Jonathan, went to Keene, N. H. 122, Eli, born 16th February, 1743.

42. Baruch, a "chief man" in Franklin; married Abigail Slocum. He died 8th March, 1765. She died 30th August, 1778. Had nine children. 124, Timothy, born 15th September, 1729. (See graduates.) 125, Lydia, born 14th April, 1731; married Thomas Bacon, 3d. 127, Jerusha, born 20th October, 1735; married David Fisher. 129, Betty, born 8th January, 1740; married Capt. Joseph Hills. 132, Asa, born 1747.

56. John, lived in North Franklin; was a founder of the West Medway church, and a ruling elder. He married Dinah Metcalf and died 10th April, 1777. His widow married Lieut. Hezekiah Fisher. He had five children: 154, Malchiah, born 30th September, 1746. 157, John, born 20th August, 1752; not married; was a Revolutionary soldier.

57. Daniel. (See list of college graduates.)

58. Benjamin, married Mary Park, of Hopkinton. He died 22d February, 1787. Had eight children: was in the Revolutionary war. 165, Benjamin, born 1st October, 1757. 166, Bar-

zillai, born 27th July, 1759. 167. Elihu, born 16th May, 1763. 168, Rachel, married Amos Ware and died in 1818.

63. Ebenezer, married Freelove ——, and had ten children. Removed to Oswego, N. Y., and died there March, 1821. Was a Revolutionary soldier.

178. Penuel, born 23d November, 1757; not married. Was in the war. 180, Jane, married Eleazer Perry, and died 27th April, 1856.

72. Joseph, married Mary Newland, and died 21st November, 1773. She married Joseph Day. Had four children: 188, Oliver Newland, born 18th March, 1769. 189, Darius, removed to Alstead, N. H., and then West. 190, Joseph. Not known further.

87. Samuel, a founder of the West Medway church, married Hannah Johnson, of Uxbridge, and died 24th April, 1806. Had nine children: 197, Samuel, born 15th November, 1753; not married. (See Revolutionary soldiers). 199, William, born 23d March, 1758. 200, Paul, born 11th May, 1760. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) 202, Mary, married Benajah Pond. 203, Elizabeth, born 6th January, 1767; married Lewis (281). 204, Henry, joined the "N. W. Fur Co." and died on his way to Canada. 205, Jemima, born 20th December, 1771; married Oliver (259).

90. Timothy, married Sarah Cutler, and died 27th October, 1776. She died 23d March, 1816. He was a Revolutionary soldier. He had five children: 206, Sarah, married first, Ichabod Hawes, second Jeremy Leland, of Holliston. 208, Timothy, born 14th January, 1769. 209, Esther, married Oliver N. (188). 210, Cutler, born 24th August, 1774.

101. Robert; his house is now occupied by Jefferson Daniels, and is one of the oldest in town. He married first Rachel Adams, second Rebecca. He died 15th September, 1801. Had seven children: 235, Sarah, married John Ellis. 237, Robert, born 29th December, 1755.

102. Ezra, "Ensign," married, first, Sarah Morse, of Wrentham, second, Mercy Baker, of Bellingham. In 1771 he removed to Hubbardston, and died there in 1802. Had eight children, born in Franklin: 244, Joseph, born 12th May, 1756, and removed to Hubbardston. (See Revolutionary soldiers.)

104. Oliver; sold his farm to David Daniels, now the Rock-





wood estate, and re-bought the farm and built the house now occupied by Goldsbury Pond, at Unionville. He married Anne, daughter of Samuel Metcalf; died 14th December, 1800. She died 31st of July, 1817. Had twelve children: 252, Judith, married Asa Pond (132). 253, Chloe, married Ichabod Dean. 257, Edna, married Seth Dean. 260, Goldsbury, born 28th September, 1770. 261, Anne, not married. 263, Samuel Metcalf, born 16th November, 1777. (See graduates.)

108. Hezekiah married Lois ——. He died 8th December, 1822. Had eight children: 267, Benajah, born date unknown; 273, Jeremiah Metcalf, born 12th February, 1781.

111. Elijah, "Captain," left Franklin in 1785 for Grafton, and died in Torrington, Conn., in 1830. His fine farm in Franklin was sold mainly to Elisha Bullard. He married, first, Margaret, daughter of Eleazer Metcalf; second, Mehitable, daughter of Dr. Silas Pratt of Wrentham. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) Had thirteen children, none of whom settled in Franklin.

113. Elisha, carpenter, married first Phebe Ware, second Mehitable Cheever. He died 30th May, 1796. Had ten children: 300, Elisha, born 21st February, 1749. "Doctor." (See graduates.) 306, Apollos, born 12th June, 1764. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) 308, Jemotis, born 23d October, 1772.

117. Benjamin, married Lois Partridge of Medway, and died 27th December, 1809. Had nine children: 315, Amos, born 19th June, 1758, not married. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) 316, Meletiah, married Abijah Clark; 317, Ichabod, born 22d February, 1762; 318, Ziba, born 27th February, 1764; 319, Leonard, born 14th February, 1767; 320, Nathan, born 20th April, 1769; 321, Lois, married David Lawrence; 322, Benjamin, born 23d October, 1773.

122. Eli (see Revolutionary soldiers), born and died in Franklin, but lived also in Holliston, Medway and Bellingham. He married Huldah Hill, and died 20th May, 1802. Had twelve children: 333, Eli, born 17th November, 1769; 337, Eliab, born 1st October, 1779, not married; 340, Lueinda, married Eliakim Morse and went to Oakham; 342, Asa Aldis, born 19th February, 1792.

132. Asa, "Captain" and first town clerk of Franklin, bought the farm of Perez Cushing on Mine Brook. In 1792 sold to Levi

Fisher and ultimately removed to Petersham. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) He married Judith Pond, daughter of Oliver, 104, and had six children.

154. Malchiah (see Revolutionary soldiers) married Ruth Fisher, and died 14th March, 1804. Had five children. 391, Otis, born 26th December, 1771; 392, Lewis, born 3d July, 1773; 395, Malchiah, born 17th October, 1787.

165. Benjamin (see Revolutionary soldiers), married Catherine Cutler, and had eleven children. He finally moved to Hopkinton and died there in 1845. 396, John, born 21st February, 1783, became a physician in Mendon. 339, Benjamin, born 4th April, 1789. (See graduates.) 401, Hiram went to Salem.

166. Barzillai (see Revolutionary soldiers) married Melli-ent, daughter of Captain Asa and Sarah Fairbanks. In 1804 he removed to West Medway and died in 1823. (See Revolutionary soldiers.) Had five children: 407, Sarah, married Baruch Pen-niman, the father of Daniel T.

167. Elihu (see military) married first Polly, daughter of John Boyd, second Jemima, daughter of Elisha and Mary (Pond 91) Cutler, third Marena Allen. He was Justice of the Peace and esteemed for his piety. He had ten children: Polly Boyd, married David P. Blake; Elihu, went to Paxton; Emily, still in Franklin; Edward, died in Illinois; Joseph Parks, went to Newton; James Sullivan is in Salem; and Elizabeth, in West Brookfield.

188. Oliver Newland married Esther Pond (209), lived at the Center, and died 26th January, 1845. She died 28th February, 1847. They had five children: 447, Adela, married Samuel Payson of Holliston; 448, Nathaniel Ogden, died unmarried; 449, Increase Sumner, born 21st July, 1801; 450, Esther, married George W. Morse of Rutland, Vt.

199. William married Mary Hide of Medway and died 21st July, 1843. Had five children, none remained in town.

200. Paul (see Revolutionary soldiers) married Calley Dexter of Medway, and had a son born in Franklin. 470, Paul Dexter, born 20th May, 1784. He went to Sudbury, Vt., and died in Richmond, O., in 1843.

208. Timothy, Lieutenant, married Rachel Adams of Medway. He died 17th June, 1829. Had nine children: 477, Justin, born 6th July, 1791; 476, Timothy Leland, born 27th September, 1794;

479. Sylvia, not married; 480. Amanda, married Samuel Haskell, and had six children; 481. Clarissa Ann, not married; 482, Lyman P., born 26th October, 1805, went to West Medway; 483, Abel, born 8th October, 1808, and removed to Holliston; 484, Gilbert C. (see graduates).

210. Cutler, Major, married first Hannah Wood, second Lydia Temple of Holliston. He died 3d April, 1857. Had three children: 486, Clarinda, married Melville Knapp; 487, John Preston, went to Randolph, Vt.; 488, Hannah Cutler, married George W. Nason.

237. Robert (see Revolutionary soldiers) married Olive Richardson, and died 19th October, 1839. Had ten children: 549, Calley, married Amos Bullard, no children; 550, Martin, born 3d October, 1783; 551, Olive, married Samuel Morse of Waldo-boro, Me.; 552, Lewis, born 29th August, 1790; 557, James Preston, born 2d August, 1800.

260. Goldsbury, married Priscilla Fisher of Medway. He died 9th December, 1866. Had three children: 602, Goldsbury, Jr., born 27th January, 1798; 603, Erasmus, born 15th October, 1800; 604, Juline, not married.

267. Benajah, "captain" of artillery, married, first, Mary Pond, 202; second, Sybil Clark. In 1820 went to Crown Point, N. Y., and died there in 1857. Had ten children, seven born in Franklin: 625, Willard, born 11th November, 1791; 626, Roxena, married Jeremiah Claffin; 630, Benajah, went to North Hudson, N. Y.

273. Jeremiah M. married Polly Morse, and died 2d June, 1827. Had five children: 635, Lyman, went to Valley Falls, R. I.; 637, Asa, born 4th January, 1815, went to Milford; 638, Eliab Metcalf, born 8th October, 1819.

308. Jemotis lived on the homestead. He married Sally Gilmore, and in 1832 Miranda Thurston. He died 20th April, 1843, from a fall. Had seven children: 725, Jemotis, died without issue in Medway in 1847; 726, Hiram, born 11th August, 1798; 727, Sunner, born 24th August, 1800, went to Milford; 728, Gilmore, born 12th May, 1803, lived in Natick; 729, Sally, born 1st May, 1807, married Win. Barnard in Medway; 730, Elizabeth G., born 7th February, 1810, married a Bellows, and left town.

320. Nathan married first Rachel Clark, second widow Olive (Penniman) Marsh. He died 3d September, 1850. Had four

children: 742, Nathan Clark, born 18th April, 1798, and removed to Medway; 743, Rachel, married Charles F. Knapp, of Medway; 744, Nelson, born 9th January, 1803, and removed to Holliston; 745, Alfred, born 30th March, 1806, and left town.

322. Benjamin married Lydia, daughter of Timothy Ellis. Died 3d December, 1844. Had six children: 747, Benjamin Davis, born 21st January, 1805; 749, Miranda Ellis, married Lyman P. White; 750, Charlotte, married Daniel T. Penniman.

333. Eli married, first, Hannah Daniels, of Holliston; second, Ruth (Wiswell), widow of Dr. Daniel Bullard, of Holliston. He died 16th October, 1846. Had three children, who left town.

342. Asa Aldis removed to Calais, Me., and married. He died at Ellsworth, Me., 14th October, 1853. His daughter, Huldah A., married Hon. Harrison Tweed, of Taunton.

449. Increase S. married Clarinda, daughter of Nathan and Hannah Allen, and died in Bellingham 20th February, 1840. Had three children, who died young.

477. Justin married Ruth D. Perry, and died 19th October, 1842. Had ten children, of whom Justin Eli, Lydia, Ellis, Timothy and Alvin D. went to Medway; Alexander De Witt, to Trout Creek, N. Y. Edwin Cutler alone remains in Franklin.

478. Timothy Leland, "Captain," married Abigail Fisher. He died 24th May, 1836. Had four children: Silvia, born 14th May, 1821; George L., who lives in Medway, and Edmund F., in Vineland, N. J.

550. Martin married Amy Elderkin, of Windham, Conn. Had seven children. One only lived in town: Henry Bowen, married Ann Maria (Bent). He died 1st May, 1855, leaving one child, Inez Etta.

553. Lewis, married Nancy Ware, of Dedham. No children.

557. James Preston, married Sukie, daughter of Seth and Olive Whiting, and removed to Waldoboro, Me., but returned to Franklin. Had five children.

602. Goldsbury, Jr., married Julia Ann, daughter of Seth Harding, and has had eleven children: Anna Metcalf, married J. Francis Atwood, of Philadelphia. She is now a widow in Franklin. Goldsbury Harding; married and resides out of town. Erasmus Allington. (See graduates.) Edwin James; Oliver Dean; Metcalf Everett. (See biographical notices.)



*Jos. G. Ray*



603. Erasmus married Ruth M. Snow and died 17th October, 1828. She married Dr. Shadrach Atwood, of Bellingham (H. U., 1830,) and now lives in town. They have no children.

625. Willard, married Sally, daughter of Aaron Hills, Bellingham. He died 22d April, 1844, leaving one child, Sarah Maria, who married John Cushing of Medway. All are dead.

726. Hiram married Joanna M. Fales, of Attleboro. He died 22d April, 1857. Had six children: Jane Elizabeth, married Benjamin G. Seekel and went to Providence. Harriet M. married first James B. Wilson of Medway, second Addison S. Shepard of Franklin. James Hiram married Mary Ann, daughter of Adin and Mary Fisher. Emory married Sarah J. Wyatt, of Bristol, R. I. Almira L.

745. Alfred married first Almira Lovering, second Louisa Fisher. He died 25th January, 1848. Had three children; none in town. This once large family has almost disappeared from Franklin.

#### THE RAY FAMILY

came into Franklin in 1839. They immediately began an active business at Unionville, as described under the head of Industries. The three sons are Joseph G., James P. and Frank B. A portrait of Joseph G. Ray is given on the preceding page. That of James P. Ray will be found among the Centennial Committee. A view of their two residences, contiguous to each other, is in the notices of professional men. Frank B. Ray occupies the Makepeace house, as will be seen in notices of the Rockwood family.

#### THE RICHARDSON FAMILY.\*

The immigrant ancestor of this family, John, settled in the present Medway. He married Rebecca, daughter of Joseph and Alice Clark, 1st May, 1679, and had seven children. After his death, 29th May, 1697, the widow married John Hill of Sherborn. She died 17th February, 1739. The children were: 2, John; Elizabeth, died unmarried; Daniel; Joseph; Melitable; Benjamin; Rebecca, married Eleazer Hill.

2. John, born 25th August, 1679, married probably a daughter

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\* Compiled from Rev. J. A. Vinton's Genealogy.

of John Breck of Medfield and had twelve children. He died 19th May, 1759. His wife died at 95. Of his children were: Sarah, married David Pond of Franklin; 3, John; Jonathan, afterwards of Brookfield; Esther; Joseph of Uxbridge; Samuel of Wrentham; Solomon of Brookfield; Moses; Asa, the miller, at Rockville; David of Barre. A widely-scattered household at last.

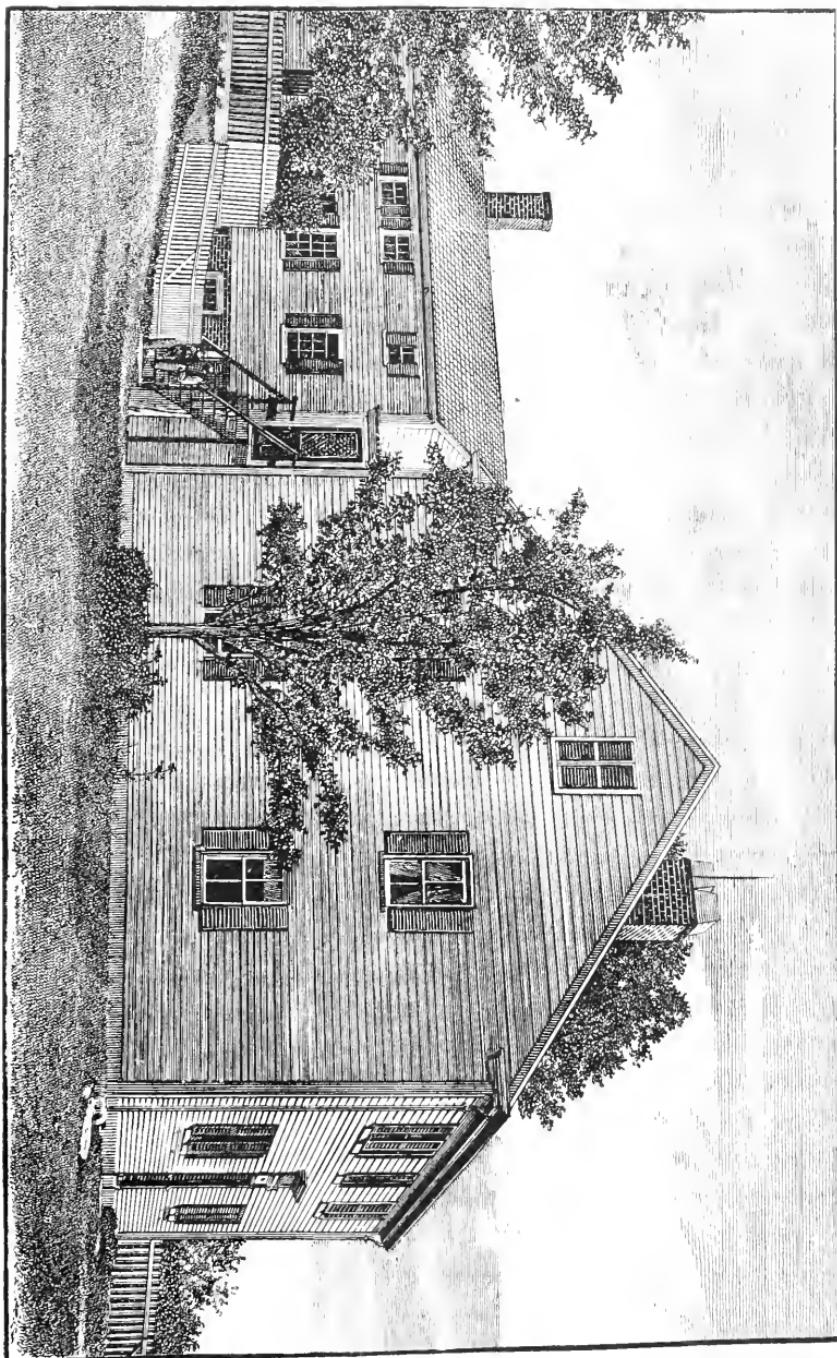
3. John, the ancestor of the Franklin branch, settled in North Franklin, his father buying for him fifty-three acres of wild land now forming part of the farm of S. W. Richardson, Esq. He married Jemima, daughter of Edward Gay, his neighbor on the south. He was born 22d October, 1701, and died 5th November, 1767. She died 26th December, 1782. They had seven children: 4, Timothy; 5, John; Jerusha, married Nathaniel Fisher of Wrentham; Elizabeth, married Aaron Kingsbury; 6, Elisha; 7, Eli.

4. Timothy, born 31st July, 1731, married first Mehitable —, second Betty —. He lived on the Phineas Partridge farm, and had eight children, of whom were: 8, Amasa; Seeva; Ziba, and Timothy, Jr.

5. John, born 19th June, 1735, married Abigail Haven, cousin of the minister; was a carpenter. He died 4th May, 1809. She died 11th February, 1820. His house forms the eastern or right hand part of the present residence of S. W. Richardson, Esq., a view of which is given on the opposite page. It is beautifully situated on the road to Medway village, and commands a fine view of the town towards the south. John and Abigail had four children: Jerusha, married William Sloemnb, and afterwards went to Sutton; Olive, married Robert Pond; Lydia Haven, married Amasa (8); 9, John Wilkes.

6. Elisha, born 5th July, 1743, married Abigail Lawrence. He and his brother Eli bought the farm of Richard and Jemima Puffer who had received it in 1691, which has since been the home-stead of the family. He was a cabinet-maker, supplying all the young couples with their first furniture for miles around. He died 15th March, 1798. She died 3d October, 1827. They had seven children: Polly, married Asa Partridge; Julia, married Nathan Adams; Abigail, married Nathan Metcalf; Namey, married Daniel, brother of Nathan Adams; Jemima, married Captain David Baker; 10, Elisha, Jr.

7. Eli, born 5th August, 1745, married Mehitable Farrington,



RESIDENCE OF STEPHEN W. RICHARDSON.



of Wrentham. He sold his half of the farm to his brother Elisha, and bought the present city mills, where he resided. He had four children: John, died young; Sally, married John Torry, Jr.; 11, Eli, Jr.; Mehitable, married Josiah Ware, of Wrentham.

8. Amasa, son of Timothy, born 29th December, 1761; married his cousin, Lydia Haven, and lived near Davis Thayer's. He died 17th of March, 1838; she died April following. They had four children: Eliab, married Lydia Bent, of Middleboro, and went to Maine. 12, Eli Milton; Erastus (see biographical sketches); Eleanor, married, first, Samuel Miller, of Rehoboth, second, Calvin Turner, of Sharon, and now resides in that town.

9. Capt. John Wilkes, born 30th December, 1774; the first child with a middle name baptized in Franklin. He married Matilda Kingsbury. He taught a public school thirty-one consecutive years, and filled many town offices. He had three children: Abigail, married Noyes Payson Hawes, and removed to Maine. John Haven, married Louisa Pike and had Matilda. 13, Stephen Wilkes.

10. Elisha, Jr., born 17th August, 1790; married, first, Ruth, daughter of Levi Fisher, second, Harriet, daughter of Timothy and Julia (Dean) Blake. He died 14th June, 1866. He was a very upright and faithful citizen. He had: Ruth, Maria, Julietta; Clarissa Day, married Dea. Peter Adams; Elisha Fisher, married Olive D. Ware, and removed to Long Island; Abigail M.; Nancy Adams, married Francis J. Adams. He had by second wife: Charles A. and Albert D. (See biographical sketches.)

11. Eli, Jr., born ——, 1781; married Chloe Lindley 1st January, 1809, but had no children. He was the first postmaster in town, built the city factory, and was a prominent citizen in his community.

12. Eli Milton, born 24th December, 1791; married Melita Norcross, and lived on the paternal farm near the Center. She died 13th September, 1844, and he married Lydia Eaton, of Framingham. He died 3d January, 1875. Their children were: Emeline Melita, married Gilbert Partridge, of Medway. Harriet Newell, married first Charles Winslow, second Rev. Edward F. Dickinson, of Chicago, Ill. William Tyler, Albert Milton. (See biographical sketches.) Julia; Holbrook.

13. Stephen Wilkes, born 30th March, 1813 ; received a thorough academic education and taught school for several years ; was the first bookkeeper of the Boston *Journal*, in 1834. He has been Representative, United States Internal Revenue Assessor for ten years, and trial justice since 1871, besides filling nearly all our municipal offices. His portrait is inserted opposite. Esquire Richardson married, first, Eliza A. Bullard, of Medway, and second, her sister, Mary Bullard, and has had five children, of whom survive John Warren, on the paternal estate, and Henry Bullard, Professor at Amherst college. (See biographical sketches.)

ROCKWOOD FAMILY.\*

1. Richard, of Dorchester, 1636, and next of Braintree. Had Nicholas, John, and Lydia, married Edward Adams, of Medfield. 2, Nicholas, his son, removed to Medfield and afterwards to Medway. He died 26th January, 1680. Had eight children. Samuel, deacon. 2, Benjamin, born 8th September, 1651, and removed to Wrentham. Josiah ; Elizabeth, married John Partridge, Jr. ; Joseph married Hannah Partridge ; John, called "Rev.," 3, Nathaniel, born 23d February, 1665, and removed to Wrentham, and was deacon there. Isaac.

2. Benjamin, who discovered the Indians at Indian Rock ; married Judith. He died at Wrentham 5th December, 1747, in his 97th year, but was one of the West precinct members. He had five children : Mary, born 2d October, 1683 ; married Samuel Fisher of Wrentham and died 12th April, 1763.

3. Nathaniel, brother of Benjamin and deacon of Wrentham church ; married Joanna Ellis. He died 24th September, 1721. He had seven children : Margaret, born 4th September, 1699 ; married Ebenezer Metcalf. Nathaniel, born 9th December, 1700 ; married Margaret Phipps. 4, Benjamin, born 28th March, 1703 ; married first Mehitable Thompson, second Ruth Man, second daughter of Rev. Samuel Man. She died 9th November, 1711, aged 91. Hannah, born 9th October, 1707 ; married Thomas Lawrence. Abigail, born 8th June, 1714 ; married Josiah Blake.

4. Benjamin, lived at Mine Brook Valley (Unionville). He died October, 1774. She died 11th November, 1811. Had eleven

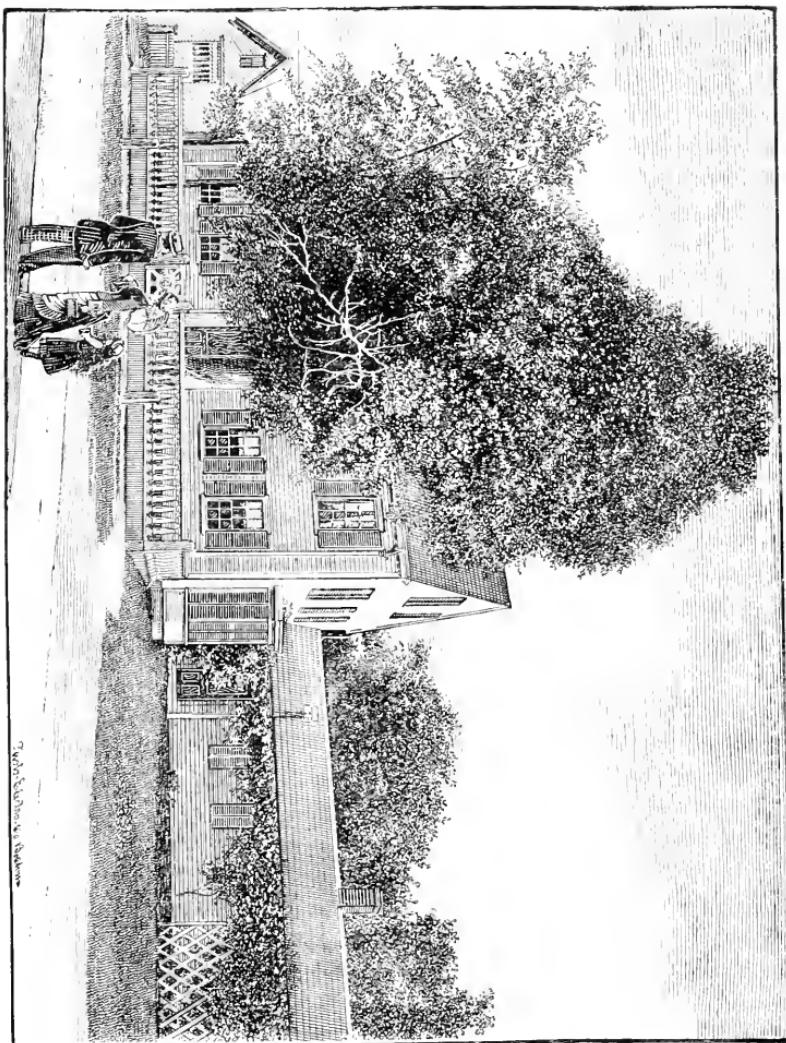
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\* Compiled from a genealogy by Rev. A. Morse.



*S. W. Richardson*





W.M. MAKEPEACE HOMESTEAD.



children : Keziah, married Francis Daniels. Mehitable, born 25th October, 1734; married Timothy Richardson. Lois, born 4th June, 1744; married Eleazer Partridge. Samuel, born 19th May, 1746; married Sarah Richardson. 5, Timothy, born 14th March, 1748-9, married Sarah Phillips, of Bellingham. Elisha, settled in North Wrentham, and died 1st December, 1831. Rachel, born 26th April, 1756; married Elisha Bullard. Ennice, born 31st July, 1758; married Samuel Blake.

5. Timothy, lived and died on the paternal estate at Unionville, where he opened a grocery store in 1782, and added a drug store, the first in the town, which drew customers far and wide. The store has been continued in the family ever since by his son Asa, and grandson Erastus, and William, the present proprietor. It has been, too, on or very near the original site, and still maintains its character for upright dealing. Timothy died 4th December, 1841, in his 94th year. His wife died 20th March, 1827. He had four children : Sally, died unmarried ; 6, Asa, born 25th March, 1787 ; Nathan, born 9th January, 1798, married Hannah Miller, and lived on King street.

6. Asa, married Julia, daughter of Abijah and Rachel Thurston, and carried on the paternal store until his death. He had seven children : Erastus, born 17th August, 1813 ; married first, Mary Ann, daughter of Joel Daniels, second, Louisa Morse ; died a few years since. Julia Ann, died at 18. Abijah Thurston, born 24th March, 1820 ; married Sarah M. Peck ; he died recently. Susan Bailey, married Francis B. Ray ; they reside at Unionville, in the house formerly built by William Makepeace, a view of which is given opposite. William, born 16th July, 1827, and married Laura Matilda, daughter of Ira and Laura Blake ; his portrait is given as one of the Centennial Committee ; they have three children, sons.

#### THE SHUTTLEWORTH FAMILY

had but two male representatives — Ebenezer in the precinct and Vincent in the church — and but three females in the latter. Only three families appear in the Wrentham records. Benjamin and Sarah (whose second child was “born in Stonintown,” and “Vinsaint” and Sarah), who had : Sarah, born 24th April, 1722 ; Vincent, born 16th December, 1727 ; Marey, born 14th February,

1736. Ebenezer and Ruth, of the West Precinct had: Ebenezer, Jr., born 16th February, 1753; and Elizabeth, 2d April, 1757. The name thereafter disappears from the parish.

#### THE SLOCUM FAMILY

had an equally brief stay, removing mostly, it seems, to Medway. Simon, while he staid, was a prominent member of the precinct and filled many offices. John was a member of the church. They were probably brothers, as the similarity of their children's names indicates a common ancestry. Thus, Simon by his wife Abigail had: Samuel, Chloe, Eleazer, Metcalf, and Jeremiah. There is no record except of their baptism. John married Experience Healy and had: Simon, Billy, George, John, Experience, and Chloe. John carried part of his family to Sutton, Simon to Medway.

Billy or William, born 22d April, 1750, married Jerusha Richardson and had eleven children, four of whom were born in Franklin, the remainder in Sutton.

William, Jr., born 5th February, 1783, in Franklin, married Selah Cushing, and in 1816 migrated to Marietta, O. (See biographical sketches.)

#### THE THAYER FAMILY

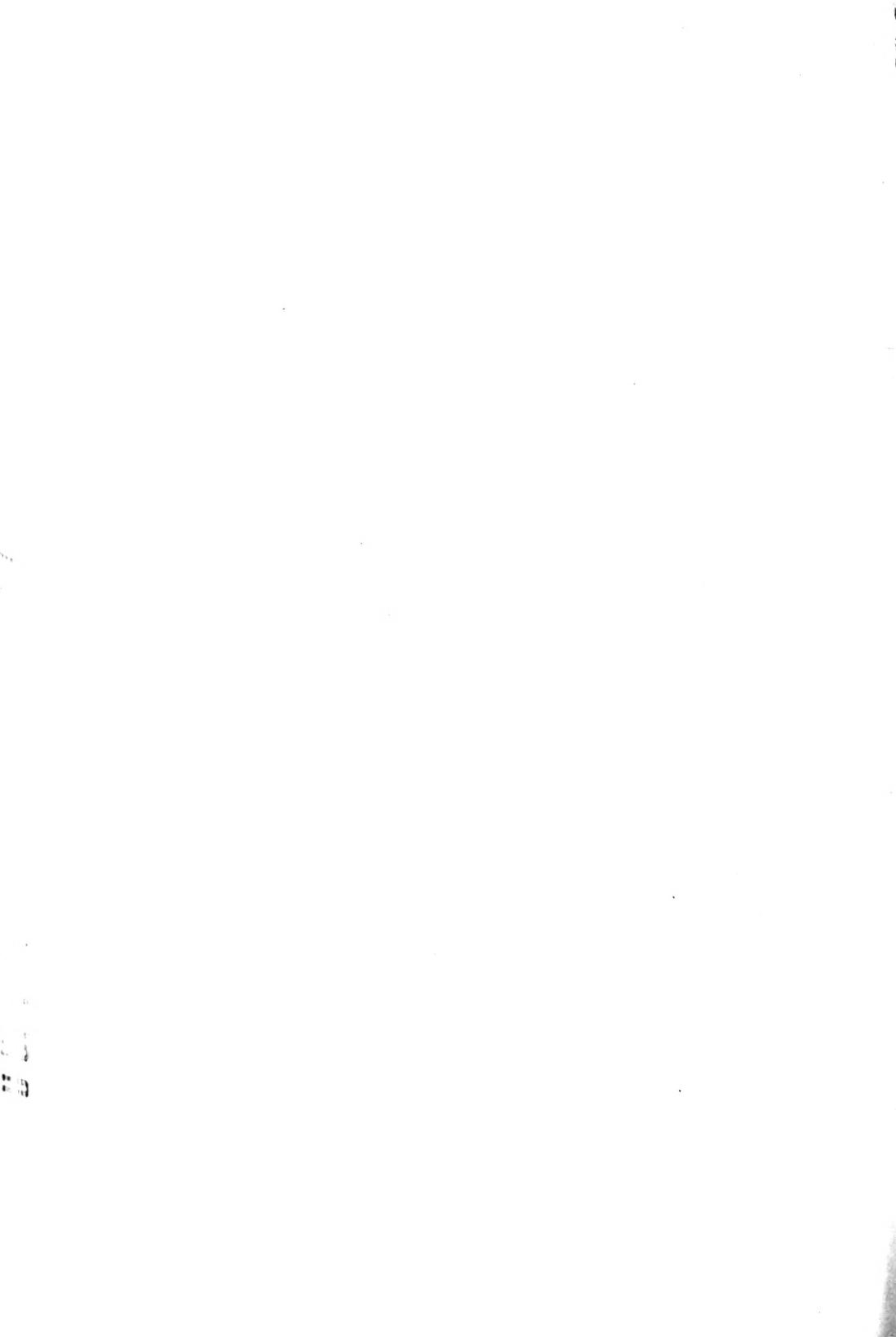
came into town early in 1800, in the person of Nathaniel, who lived at Unionville, and did much to build up that then little manufacturing village called "The Street" in connection with the Makepeaces and Rockwoods. He had at least five sons of like proclivities with himself.

Asa and Davis formed a partnership in the straw business at the Center, as described in the section on industries. Horace, after a season, opened the Franklin Hotel in the Asa Fisher house, at the foot of the Common. Fisher engaged in thread and other business, and accumulated quite a property. Nathaniel, Jr., also removed to the Center, where some of his family still reside.

Davis, Major, married Betsey, a sister of William Makepeace. A view of his house is given in the section on industries, and a portrait of himself is affixed opposite. He had eight children, of whom only four reached maturity: Deborah Burrell, born



Davis Thayer



17th October, 1813; married Wilkes Gay, Jr., and died; Davis, Jr., born 24th October, 1815, married Mary M., daughter of Joseph Whiting. Emery, birth not recorded; married and resided in Charleston, S. C., but now resides in Franklin. William M., born 24th February, 1820 (see biographical notices); his portrait



RESIDENCE OF DAVIS THAYER, JR.

is given in the group of the Centennial Committee. Betsey Ann, born 6th June, 1822, married William E. Whiting. The four members of this family live contiguously to the homestead, and on the same street. The four residences form a fine addition to the village. A view of the residence of Davis Thayer, Jr., is given above.

## THE THURSTON FAMILY

is represented among the precinct petitioners by Daniel, a member of the church, 1st March, 1741. His immigrant ancestor probably was John, of Dedham, who came from England in the "Mary Ann," of Yarmouth, in 1637. He was a carpenter, then aged 36, and brought his wife Margaret and two children, Thomas and John. He had in Dedham, Joseph, Benjamin, Mary, and Judith. The children of John, some of them, settled in Medfield, whence came, 1, Thomas, of Wrentham.

1. Thomas married Mehitable. She died in Wrentham 11th August, 1692. He died 15th December, 1704. His second wife was Esther. Their children were: Mehitable, born 1st August, 1686; Mary, died young; Ichabod lived twenty days and died two days before his mother. By second wife he had: David, born 20th November, 1693; 2, Daniel, born 25th September, 1695; Luke, born 20th April, 1698; Esther, born 21st June, 1700; Mary, born 3d September, 1702.

2. Daniel married, 9th February, 1720, Deborah, daughter of Ephraim and Deborah (Hawes) Pond. She was an original member of the West precinct church. He had five children: Deborah, born 21st September, 1720, died 22d October, 1742; 3, Daniel, born 1st January, 1722; Esther, born 28th June, 1723; married Seth Jones (?). David, born 6th May, 1726; was the first pastor of the church in West Medway; Eleoni, born 19th May, 1728; married Jonathan Whiting.

3. Daniel, Jr., married, 13th March, 1743, Elizabeth Whiting; was chosen deacon of the West precinct church 3d July, 1754, and died 25th June, 1785. She died 16th September, 1806. He had thirteen children: Deborah, born 7th February, 1745; Molly, born 20th July, 1746; married Daniel Kingsbury. Unity, born 7th January, 1748; married Seth Daniels. 4, Daniel, Jr., born 11th September, 1749. 5, Abijah, born 5th July, 1751. Abigail, born 6th March, 1754. Chloe, born 25th March, 1758; "hanged herself" 20th July, 1793. Elizabeth, born 7th February, 1760; married Aquilla Robbins, of Wrentham. Caleb, born 9th February, 1760 (so in the records). David, born 25th April, 1762. Esther, born 25th May, 1764. Lueretia, born 24th March, 1766; married Nathan Pond and died in Walpole 1st March, 1824;

Joseph, born 26th August, 1769. Of this family, except Daniel and Abijah, we know nothing further.

14. Daniel, Jr., married Susanna ——. He died 7th November, 1802. She died 31st December, 1831. They had six children recorded: 6, Daniel, born 22d February, 1783; Luke, born 5th February, 1785, and married Olive Clark; Paul, born 5th February, 1787; Nahum, born 24th January, 1792; Philo, born 15th July, 1794, married Julia M., daughter of Joseph Daniels, and went with his brother Nahum to Union, Me.; Johnson, born 9th November, 1797.

5. Abijah married Rachel ——. He "fell dead" 10th July, 1812. His widow died 21st November, 1826. They had six children: Vina, born 30th May, 1775, married Jesse Gilmore; Deborah, born 3d June, 1777, married Jesse Metcalf; Nancy, born 28th May, 1779, married Thaddeus Hastings; 7, Caleb, born 20th June, 1781; 8, David, born 20th September, 1784; Julia, born 9th November, 1788, married Asa Rockwood.

6. Daniel married Bathsheba Brintnall of Mansfield, and had twelve children, but none, excepting possibly Gilbert Rodney, settled in town. He was a boat-builder in South Franklin. The rest went West.

7. Caleb married Louisa ——. He was Colonel, and for years kept an inn upon the Taunton and Worcester stage route on the Thurston homestead. He had seven children, all but one of whom died in childhood. Abigail Thompson, born 24th April, 1817, married David Ely, and left town.

8. David married Miranda Ellis. He died 25th July, 1811, leaving one child, Nancy, born 18th March, 1811. His widow became the second wife of Jemotis Pond. None of the name remains in town.

#### THE WARE FAMILY.

Eleazer, whose name appears among the petitioners, lived in West Franklin. His wife was one of the earliest members of the church. He was son of Eleazer and Mary, and grandson of John and Mary, original settlers of Wrentham.

1. John and Mary had John, born at Dedham 17th June, 1670; Eleazer, born at Wrentham 28th September, 1676; and probably others.

2. Eleazer and Mary had : 3, Eleazer, Jr., born 11th November, 1701 ; Jerusha, born 8th January, 1704 ; Daniel, born 2d November, 1706 ; Mercy, born 2d March, 1708 ; Hezekiah, born 17th April, 1711 ; Jerusha, born 23d June, 1714 ; Mercy, born 15th February, 1717 ; Abial, born 19th August, 1719.

3. Eleazer, Jr., married Hannah Man 20th May, 1736. He died 8th July, 1751. They had : Hannah ; Jerusha ; 4, Billy, born 21st March, 1743 ; Ziba, born 13th December, 1744 ; 5, Eli, born 31st March, 1748 ; Abial.

4. Billy married Sarah ——, and had : Amasa, born 12th October, 1780 ; Lois, baptized 5th May, 1782 ; and Jerusha.

5. Eli married Tamar Wight 27th June, 1771 ; and lived near Bellingham line. They had : Sarah, Phineas, Margaret, Hepzibah, and David.

Jabez, whose birth is not found in the records was, with his wife Mary, among the earliest members of the West precinct church. He had ten children ; among them were : Phineas, baptized 29th April, 1750 ; Amos baptized 30th March, 1760. Amos married Rachel Pond and removed to Paxton. He was father of Harriet Ware, who was born in Paxton 12th July, 1799, and became afterwards a devoted city missionary and the widely-known first superintendent of the Children's Home in Providence, R. I. She always claimed Franklin as her home. She died 26th June, 1847, in her 48th year.

Phineas, "Lieutenant," married Susa Hawes and had : Clarinda, married Macy Adams and removed to Walpole, N. H. ; Elvira ; Warren died young ; Alfred, born 30th September, 1787, married Ruth ——, and died soon after ; Philander, born 12th November, 1789. He had two wives, but no surviving children. He lived on the homestead. Of this house Dr. Emmons said it was the only one he knew large enough for two families. Susan, born 29th December, 1792, and died 5th March, 1833. Lieutenant Ware died 17th January, 1826. His wife died 27th September, 1877. This branch of the Wares is extinct in town.

Jesse and Keziah Ware, of another branch, had nine children ; of them were Amariah, married Eunice Aldis, and had : Frederick Augustus, born 29th June, 1798, married Sarah Morse ; Esther, born 8th December, 1800 ; Nathan, 27th December, 1807 ; Eleazer, married Sally ——, and had : Sabin, born 3d July, 1812 ; San-

ford, married, but without children, and others. Alfred, birth unrecorded, married Jemima Fisher, and had: Emeline, died early, and Alfred Fisher. His house is now owned by J. L. Fitzpatrick. Samuel, Jr., married Olive Daniels, and had: Olive D., who married Fisher Richardson; Samuel Gilbert, born 8th March, 1824. The descendants of the once numerous Ware family have almost entirely disappeared from town.

#### THE WHITING FAMILY.

The constant recurrence of the family name confounds all certain arrangement in the short time allowed to this genealogical chapter. But some one with more leisure may link the following circles together:—

Joseph, the precinct member, was evidently the son of Samuel and Mary, and born 7th December, 1702. He also married a Mary, and had eight children, most of whom died in early life. Silence, born 14th March, 1731, married Abraham Blake; Abigail, born 2d November, 1737, married Seth Baeon. No sons seem to have reached maturity, and the family was ended.

In the church is John, the first deacon with Daniel Kingsbury. He was the son of John and Mary, original settlers of Wrentham. John, Sen., had three children in Wrentham: Nathaniel, born 2d February, 1691, married Margaret Man; Mary, born 14th October, 1692; 2, John, Jr., "deacon," born 16th June, 1695.

2. Deacon John married Mary Wight, 24th February, 1720. He died 13th February, 1755. They had six children: Mary and John died young; Elizabeth, born 18th November, 1724, married Daniel Thurston; Abigail, born 5th October, 1728; 3, Asa, born 8th June, 1731; Esther, born 25th February, 1736.

3. Asa married Elizabeth Fisher, 25th June, 1756. He died 22d December, 1794. She died 16th July, 1820. They had seven children: 4, Asa, born 4th September, 1757; Thaddeus, baptized in Franklin 24th May, 1761; Elizabeth, baptized same date, married William Adams; Charlotte married John Whiting of Medway; Hannah married Timothy Fisher, Jr.; 5, Joseph baptized 1769; John; Nathan.

4. Asa, Jr., married Mary Gilmore 11th April, 1777, and had: Salla; Sydney, born 18th March, 1786, married Olive Morse and had seven children; Rebecca McLane; Hannah.

5. Joseph married Polly Page of Walpole, 19th November, 1793. They had: Asa, Jr., born 22d September, 1795, married Betsey W. Boyd; Polly; 6, Joseph, 2d, born 22d April, 1798; Jairus, born 12th March, 1800, married Mary Cheney; Sally P., born 19th March, 1802, married Joseph F. Gilmore; Luey; Eliza.

6. Joseph, 2d, married Zeolide ——, and had: Mary Maria, married Davis Thayer, Jr.; William Eustis, married Betsey A. Thayer; Zeolide Elizabeth.

Another Franklin family, and yet probably not another, was that of Jonathan and Elonai (Thurston) Whiting. They had: Mary, baptized in Franklin 11th August, 1751; Thurston (see biographical sketches); John, born 5th January, 1755; Jonathan, born 9th April, 1757; Abijah (see biographical sketches). Nothing further appears of this line.

Joseph, Jr., was apparently of a different descent. He married Elizabeth, and had: Cornelius, born 13th April, 1756; and, we think, 1, Joseph, 2d, who married Ruth Bacon; as also, it may be, 2, Peter, as I meet with no more likely ancestry. Joseph, Jr., was also deacon, chosen 21st July, 1779, and died 7th November, 1826. Peter, presumably his son, was chosen deacon 14th September, 1803, and died 9th December, 1805.

1. Joseph, 2d, married Ruth Bacon 14th January, 1801, and had: Ruth Adams, born 22d January, 1802; Daniel Peter, born 4th March, 1807; Joseph Milton, born 25th February, 1813.

2. Dea. Peter married Lydia Blake 14th December, 1769. No record of his children is found, but there evidently was a Peter, Jr., who married Anna Sayles 12th October, 1803, and had: Abigail, born 23d July, 1804; Joseph Blake, born 14th September, 1807; Peter, 3, born 1st June, 1809; Lydia Blake, born 9th March, 1812; 3, Willard Clark, born 7th September, 1815; Deacon of South Franklin church; married, first, Charlotte Miller; second, Olivia Whiting, of Wrentham.

3. Willard C. married, first, Charlotte Miller, second Olivia Whiting of Wrentham. He is the deacon and substantial member of the church in South Franklin.

#### THE WOODWARD FAMILY

came into the West precinct in 1756, and built the house on the farm in South Franklin, which was burned in 1874. The first

comer was Joseph, of Norton, born July, 1729, and the son of Israel, of Taunton, born in 1698, and grandson of Israel, the son of Israel and Jane (Godfrey), born 4th October, 1674.

1. Joseph, the first comer, entered the Continental army, but died suddenly in service, in 1778. His body was buried in Franklin cemetery in the year of the town's incorporation, where his epitaph speaks well for his devotion. He had four children: Nathan, born February, 1758, married, but left no children; he was in the Revolutionary war six months; he died 29th February, 1836. 2, James, born July, 1761; Hannah, not married; Rachel, married Abel Ellis, of Sutton.

2. James married Lois Ellis 16th December, 1783; he died 7th June, 1811. He had ten children: Elvira, born 10th October, 1786; Joseph, born 31st July, 1788; Elizabeth, born 20th June, 1790; 3, Austin, born 21st May, 1792; Harvey, born 17th September, 1794; Almira; Lueretia, now in Rockville, Medway; Alfred, living in Norfolk; Fanny, born 7th November, 1806; Preston, born 19th August, 1808.

3. Austin married Mary Anne Voax; he died in 1872, aged 80 years. He had ten children; of these four are dead and two only remain in town—Amos P. and Joseph A., the present efficient postmaster.

#### THE WILSON FAMILY.

Of these brief sojourners we have only these few notes:—

1. Michael married Mary ——, and had six children. He died 31st May, 1731. His wife died 16th May, 1738: Sara, born 18th February, 1675; Mary, born 16th February, 1677; 2, Michael, Jr., born 6th February, 1681; Silence, died young; Noah, born 4th September, 1686; Henry, born 9th April, 1690.

2. Michael, Jr., married Sarah Bumpas, of Taunton, 13th June, 1707. He bought and settled on what was the recent Phipps farm. He had four children: Mary, born 25th July, 1713; married Joshua Daniels. 3, Uriah, born 14th November, 1712. Benlah, born 15th May, 1715; married John Peck. 4, Lemuel, born 12th June, 1717.

3. Uriah married Mary Guild 23d March, 1737, and had six children: Sarah, born 9th June, 1739; Betty, born 19th March,

1741; Joseph, baptized 21st April, 1745; Deborah, died young; David, born 12th April, 1748; Jerusha, born 9th June, 1751.

4. Lemuel married Rebecca, and had five children: Benjamin, born 17th July, 1746; Phebe and Zebiah, died young; Hermon, baptized 10th June, 1753; Rebecca, baptized 29th September, 1756. She was the latest lingerer in town.

Michael, Jr., and Uriah were sextons of the old First church from 1738 to 1750.

This family is slightly out of the alphabetical order, but since its successive heads faithfully held the keys of the meeting-house for two generations, we trust the misarrangement will be excused, for who but the sexton should so properly *go out last* and lock up these glimpses of the old and long-ago departed congregations?

THE END.

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